

Sweetwater County Conservation District (SWCCD)

WOLF RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the nonessential, experimental population of gray wolf was introduced into Yellowstone National Park;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Rocky Mountain Wolf Recovery Plan originally provided for the introduction of non-native wolf into only Yellowstone Park to minimize human-wolf conflicts and to provide remote habitat with an established prey base;

WHEREAS, since the introduction of the gray wolf in Wyoming, the wolf numbers have steadily increased and wolf packs have met and exceeded the recovery targets set by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Wolf packs have developed outside of the recovery area and it is appropriate for wolves to be managed, like other predators, to limit damage to big game and wildlife populations and to domestic livestock;

WHEREAS, the Wyoming Legislature enacted Wyo. Stat. §23-1-101, which provides for a dual classification of the gray wolf, as trophy animals, not subject to take, and predatory animals, subject to take in certain circumstances. Under state law, upon delisting, wolves in the National Parks, National Elk Refuge and wilderness areas are classified as trophy animals and are not subject to take or animal damage control. Wolves located outside the National Parks are classified as predatory animals and may be taken, when the number of wolf packs is seven or more.

WHEREAS, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department prepared a final Gray Wolf Management Plan, which provides for seven packs of wolves outside of the National Parks and National Elk Refuge, which are managed by the National Park Service. The plan also provided that the National Park Service would maintain the current eight packs of gray wolves, so that Wyoming would maintain a minimum of 15 packs of wolves.

WHEREAS, when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service submitted the Wyoming Gray Wolf Management Plan to peer review, 10 of the 11 reviewers concluded that the Wyoming Gray Wolf Management Plan met the regulatory criteria; and

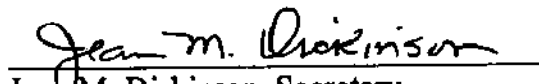
WHEREAS, the decision of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to reject the Wyoming Gray Wolf Management Plan arbitrarily requires Wyoming to manage for 23 packs (eight in the National Parks and 15 outside) while Idaho and Montana need only manage for 15 packs, and to amend state law to preclude any animal damage control of the gray wolf, when the Idaho and Montana plans permit animal damage control;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Sweetwater County Conservation District urges the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to accept the Wyoming Gray Wolf Management Plan and immediately begin delisting procedures for the gray wolf.

Enacted in open session of the Board of Supervisors on the 8th day of July, 2004.


Mary E. Thoman, Chairman


Randy Shipman, Vice-Chairman


Jean M. Dickinson, Secretary


Thomas Burris, Treasurer


George Stephen, Member

**SWEETWATER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION TO RATIFY CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Sweetwater County Conservation District is a cooperating agency for land use plan revisions and environmental impact statements;

WHEREAS, the Council on Environmental Quality guidance regarding cooperating agencies requires a commitment of time and resources on the part of the cooperator, including specific data, information, and expertise;

WHEREAS, the District lacks extensive staff but certainly can acquire relevant data, information, and expertise from consultants, and this information is necessary for the District to make a meaningful contribution to the land use plan revisions and related environmental documents;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the District ratifies the retention of professional services agreements with Dave Allison, Wayne Burkhardt, and Constance E. Brooks, to provide data, information, and professional expertise as approved by the Board.

Enacted in open session of the Board of Supervisors on the 8th day of July, 2004

Board of Supervisors



Mary E. Thoman, Chairman



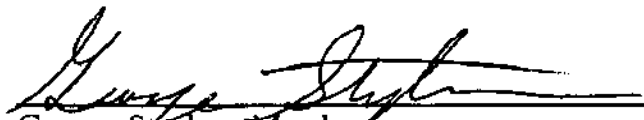
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