

House Engrossed

Mexican wolf; delist; urging support

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL 2011

A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO DELIST THE MEXICAN WOLF AS AN
ENDANGERED SPECIES UNDER THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States of America:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, in 1998 the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
4 initiated the Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Project under section 10(j) of
5 the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and began introducing captive bred
6 Mexican wolves into Arizona and New Mexico; and

7 Whereas, pursuant to section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act of
8 1973, the USFWS determined that the release of Mexican wolves in the
9 United States was purely for "experimental" purposes and that 100% of the
10 Mexican wolves currently located in the United States are not essential to
11 the continued survival of the species; and

12 Whereas, in 2014 the Mexican wolf population in the United States
13 exceeded the original goal of the USFWS of 100 wolves, yet the Mexican
14 wolf was not delisted from the endangered species list, prolonging
15 uncertainty for local communities and perpetuating greater legal
16 protections for Mexican wolves than private property rights in the name of
17 forced coexistence and radical environmentalism; and

18 Whereas, in 2017 the USFWS set a new threshold for delisting the
19 Mexican wolf that was not based on the best scientific and commercial data
20 available, that required an eight-year moving average of 320 Mexican
21 wolves sustained over three years and that forced ranchers to continue to
22 feed wolves without their consent; and

23 Whereas, as of the end of 2024, there were 286 Mexican wolves in the
24 wild in the United States and another 365 Mexican wolves in captivity,
25 marking an 11 percent increase in wild Mexican wolves in the United States
26 over year-end 2023 and the ninth consecutive year of growth; and

27 Whereas, the increased reliance of Mexican wolves on livestock and
28 their expanding encroachment into southeast Arizona has resulted in
29 violent attacks in local communities and concerning incidents near
30 residential homes involving pets and children, which threaten rural
31 families and have forced some communities to install caged bus stops for
32 the safety of children; and

33 Whereas, compensation programs currently exclude indirect losses due
34 to Mexican wolves, such as reduced weight gain, veterinary care, breeding
35 impacts or long-term herd disruptions, leaving ranchers to absorb much of
36 the financial burden; and

37 Whereas, the projected cost to American taxpayers for maintaining
38 the Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Project through 2030 is estimated to be
39 between \$47 million and \$59 million, not including compensation funds or
40 administrative overhead, and is not justified when the original population
41 goal of 100 Mexican wolves was exceeded in 2014; and

42 Whereas, the purpose of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 is to
43 recover species to the point at which the measures afforded under the
44 Endangered Species Act of 1973 are no longer required; and

1 Whereas, based on the scientific and commercial data available, the
2 Mexican wolf in the United States has met and far exceeded the minimum
3 population necessary for delisting, has sufficiently recovered, is no
4 longer at risk of extinction in its historical range and is no longer in
5 need of the protections afforded by the Endangered Species Act of 1973;
6 and

7 Whereas, on June 30, 2025, Arizona Congressman Paul Gosar introduced
8 H.R. 4255 that, if passed, would remove the Mexican wolf from the list of
9 threatened species and endangered species published pursuant to the
10 Endangered Species Act of 1973.

11 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of
12 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

13 1. That the United States Congress:

14 (a) Pass H.R. 4255 and delist the Mexican wolf from the endangered
15 species list.

16 (b) Defund the Nonessential Experimental Mexican Wolf
17 Reintroduction Project.

18 (c) Turn over management of the Mexican wolf to the states and
19 local authorities.

20 (d) Allow ranchers to protect their private property on all lands,
21 including federal leased lands.

22 (e) Modify operating procedures to give ranchers real time data on
23 Mexican wolf locations.

24 (f) Reinstate operating procedures that restore standards for
25 reverifying Mexican wolf kills.

26 (g) Fully and promptly compensate ranchers for all direct and
27 indirect economic losses related to the Mexican wolf.

28 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit
29 copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the
30 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of
31 Congress from the State of Arizona.