

Stop the Slaughter of Wolves in the Northern Rockies

Background: Wolves in the Northern Rockies are in serious jeopardy. The states of Montana and Idaho have adopted legislation that allows for the killing of 85% to 90% respectively of wolves statewide using bounties, traps and snares. Idaho is allowing the killing of newborn pups and nursing mothers in their dens and Montana is allowing hunters to bait wolves from Yellowstone and kill them after the wolves step across the border onto state land. Killing pups and habituated wolves is not hunting: it is brutal extermination. However, we can stop it.

Immediate action is required to stop the slaughter of wolves in the Northern Rockies.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has the authority to do so by enacting an emergency relisting of the Northern Rocky Mountain wolves to the Endangered Species Act.

Actions Underway

- Over 730 scientists have signed a [letter](#) calling on President Biden, Department of the Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, and US Fish and Wildlife Service Principal Deputy Director Martha Williams to enact an emergency relisting of Northern Rocky Mountain wolves to the Endangered Species Act (ESA).
- In response to two petitions for the Northern Rocky Mountain Distinct Population Segment (DPS) to be listed as a threatened or endangered species under the ESA, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has [initiated a 12-month status review](#) to determine if listing is warranted. However, this does not provide any protection for wolves in the interim and action is needed immediately to stop the slaughter of wolves in the Northern Rockies.
- FWS itself has recognized that when state wolf management poses a grave threat to wolf populations due to inadequate regulatory mechanisms, Endangered Species Act protections are warranted. 74 Fed. Reg. 15,123, 15,148 (Apr. 2, 2009).
- Meanwhile, the hunts are underway with entire packs of wolves being trapped and killed. Privately funded bounties are paying hunters \$2,500 per wolf. Decades of recovery risk being undone in an entire season if the FWS does not step in and issue an emergency listing for the Northern Rockies wolves.

How Can You Help?

Write to President Biden:

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Write to Secretary Deb Haaland:

Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Send in your comments to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service encouraging an emergency listing for wolves in the Northern Rockies: Please send [comments](#) to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by November 17, 2021 [Regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov)

Note: talking points to help you with your comments are [here](#).

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