
WHEREAS in 1999 and in 2007 the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) established a wolf population goal of 350 wolves, and

WHEREAS limiting the wolf population to not more than 350 animals has considerable support from involved organizations and, furthermore, an excessive wolf population can have many bad effects including a reduction of the deer population, reduced hunting opportunities, a danger to livestock, reduced horse riding opportunities and a danger to pets and humans, and

WHEREAS the Land Conservation Committee has carefully considered this proposal and is presenting this Resolution to the County Board for its consideration.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Richland County Board of Supervisors that the County Board recommends that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources establish a Wisconsin Wolf Plan calling for an over-winter wolf population of 350 or less and that DNR establish meaningful wolf population controls in the next Wisconsin Wolf Plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Richland County hereby requests that the DNR not relocate wolves that have caused problems in Wisconsin into any county in Wisconsin and, furthermore, that Richland County favors management of Wisconsin wolves by the State of Wisconsin and not by the Federal government, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk shall send a copy of this Resolution to Governor Scott Walker, to DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp, to Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection Secretary Ben Brancel, and to all State legislators whose district includes any part of Richland County and to the Wisconsin Counties Association, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage and publication.

VOTE ON FOREGOING RESOLUTION

AYES 13  NOES 8

RESOLUTION Adopted

COUNTY CLERK

DATED May 16, 2017

STATE OF WISCONSIN)

SS

COUNTY OF RICHLAND

I, Victor V. Vlasak, County Clerk in and for the County of Richland, do hereby certify that the above resolution is a true copy of the original adopted by the Richland County Board of Supervisors at the May meeting held on the 16th day of May, 2017.

Victor V. Vlasak
Richland County Clerk
WOLVES – WHY 350 (OR LESS) IS THE MAXIMUM FOR WISCONSIN

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

- Thirty-five Wisconsin County Boards have passed resolutions supporting a wolf goal of 350 (7) or 350 or less (25), 100 or less (1), 80 or less (1), or 50 or less (1). The votes: Barron, Burnett, Vilas, Taylor, Florence, Forest, Iron, Jackson, Lincoln, Marinette, Oconto, Oneida, Price, Shawano, Waushara, Waupaca, Grant all passed unanimously, Adams, 16 for, 2 against, Ashland 16/2, Clark 27/1, Langlade 14/3, Rusk 10/1, Sawyer 10/2, Douglas 22/2, Wood 14/3, Bayfield 9/3, Portage 22/2, Marathon 32/2, Marquette 16/1, Richland 13/8, Juneau & Polk motion carried, voice vote. Washburn voted for 50 or less 11 in favor, 9 opposed. Iowa voted 13 in favor, 7 opposed to 100 or less. The 7 opposed wanted 50 or less. Lafayette voted 15/1 in favor of 80 or less. These 35 county boards are the elected representatives of 1,084,000 WI citizens.
- The Wisconsin Farm Bureau’s 44,000 members support a wolf goal of 350 or less.
- The Wisconsin Farmer’s Union supports a wolf goal of 350.
- The Wisconsin Cattlemen’s Association supports a wolf goal of 80, the original recovery number.
- The Indianhead Polled Hereford Assoc., N. WI Beef Producers Assoc., and WI Hereford Assoc. all support a wolf goal lower than 350.
- The WI Bowhunter’s Association Board and membership supports a wolf goal of 350 or less.
- The WI Wildlife Federation, representing 198 organizations, supports a wolf goal of 350 or less.
- The WI Trapper’s Assoc. supports a goal of 350 wolves.
- The Wisconsin Bear Hunter’s Association supports a goal of 100 wolves.
- In an attitude study done by the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, UW Madison, 66.5% of respondents favored a wolf population of 350 or less - Wisconsin Wolf Policy Survey – Changing Attitudes, 2001 – 2009, Adrian Treves, et al.
- The WCC Spring Hearing in 2011 voted overwhelming in favor of reducing the wolf population to 350 or less (3989 for/827 against, passed in all 72 counties). 350 or less was again approved by WCC delegates at the 2013 annual convention.

WHERE DID THE NUMBER 350 COME FROM?
In the WI Wolf Management Plan approved in the 1999 and 2007 the goal was 350 wolves.

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

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

At this time, wolves are again on the endangered species list, but several methods of returning wolves to state control are being explored. The federal relisting number for wolves remains at 100 wolves in MI and WI, under authority of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service removal plan. Wisconsin has been working on a revision of the Wolf Management Plan. What wolf goal will best serve the needs of Wisconsin’s residents and its wildlife?

Questions or comments: contact Laurie Groskopf 715-453-6301, harrisonhounds@hotmail.com 6/17