

RESOLUTION 2020 - 37

Re: Opposing the Relocation of Problem Wolves into Vilas County

WHEREAS, in 2010 with Resolution 2010-74, the Vilas County Board of Supervisors supported the delisting of the gray wolf from the Endangered Species List, to allow for the effective management of the gray wolf populations by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR); and

WHEREAS, Vilas County supported a population goal of 350 wolves in 2010, gray wolf populations have increased to approximately 950 wolves as of April 2019; and

WHEREAS, with the increase in the gray wolf population, Wisconsin residents and visitors have experienced depredation of livestock and wildlife, as well as threats to human safety and domestic animals resulting in reduced use of recreation opportunities and compromised agricultural operations; and

WHEREAS, one management control method the DNR has used to address depredation by wolves is to relocate problem wolves to other locations which may include other counties in the state; and

WHEREAS, such method has been found to be ineffective in eliminating depredation as these wolves continue to cause damage after relocation; and

WHEREAS, Vilas County has a large percentage of forest cover as well as an economy with recreation and tourism ranked #1 in employment, with public use of forest lands ranking high within the recreational use areas; and

WHEREAS, Vilas County is concerned that the relocation of problem wolves into the county would significantly impact public safety within the forest of Vilas County, reduce opportunities for harvesting of game species and further reduce potential for agricultural operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Vilas County Board of Supervisors in session this 23rd day of June, 2020 that we hereby oppose the DNR practice of relocating problem wolves into Vilas County from other counties and/or states.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Evers, the State Legislators representing Vilas County, the Secretary of the DNR, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

SUBMITTED BY: Forestry, Recreation & Land Committee

s/ Holly Tomlanovich, Chair


s/ Art Kunde, Vice-Chair

s/ Jay Verhulst

s/ Greg Robotti

s/ Dan Swiecichowski

I, David R. Alleman, Clerk of Vilas County, Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the attached resolution is a true and correct copy of a resolution which was adopted by the Vilas County Board of Supervisors on the 23rd day of June, 2020.



David R. Alleman
Vilas County Clerk