

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KLAMATH COUNTY, OREGON**

**IN THE MATTER OF A RESOLUTION)
URGING THE OREGON FISH & WILDLIFE)
COMMISSION TO TAKE STEPS TO DELIST) RESOLUTION 2015-____
GRAY WOLVES UNDER THE OREGON)
ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT)
_____)**

WHEREAS, Gray wolves were listed as “endangered” under the Federal Endangered Species Act in 1973; and

WHEREAS, Gray wolves east of Hwy 395, 78, and 95 were federally delisted on May 5, 2011 but remain listed under the Oregon Endangered Species Act; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission directed the development of a Wolf Conservation and Management Plan to meet the requirements of both the Oregon ESA and the Oregon Wildlife Policy, which was adopted in December 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan was updated in 2010 and focused on methods and procedures to protect wolves in the early stages of implementation so that the species could be delisted and a self-sustaining population persist; and

WHEREAS, the Plan was built to meet the five delisting criteria identified in state statutes and administrative rules:

- The species is not now (and is not likely in the foreseeable future to be) in danger of extinction in any significant portion of its range in Oregon or in danger of becoming endangered; and
- The species’ natural reproductive potential is not in danger of failure due to limited population numbers, disease, predation, or other natural or human-related factors its continued existence; and
- Most populations are not undergoing imminent or active deterioration of range or primary habitat; and
- Over-utilization of the species or its habitat for commercial, recreational, scientific, or education purposes is not occurring or likely to occur; and
- Existing state or federal programs or regulations are adequate to protect the species and its habitat; and

WHEREAS, the Plan describes the measures the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will take to conserve and manage the species which included actions that could be taken to protect livestock from wolf predation and address human safety concerns; and

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WHEREAS, one of those provisions states that “Wolves may be considered for statewide delisting once the population reaches four breeding pairs for three consecutive years in Eastern Oregon. Four breeding pairs are considered the minimum conservation population objective, also describes as Phase 1”; and

WHEREAS, once the wolf is delisted, more options are available to address wolf-livestock conflict. While there are five to seven breeding pairs, livestock producers may kill a wolf pursuant to the Oregon Wolf Plan. Five to seven breeding pairs is considered Phase 2; and

WHEREAS, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists documented seven breeding pairs of wolves in Oregon in 2014, six of those pairs in Northeast Oregon; and

WHEREAS, delisting gray wolves sends a message to the rural communities, livestock producers and sportsmen, that the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission intends for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to manage gray wolves by the adopted plan and control populations and limit effects on livestock and game populations.

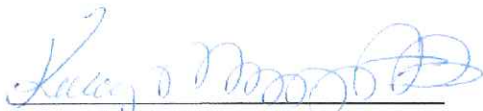
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners for Klamath County, Oregon hereby urges the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to take immediate steps to delist gray wolves throughout all of Oregon.

DONE AND DATED this 6th day of May, 2015.

KLAMATH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Tom Mallams, Chair



Kelley Minty Morris, Commissioner



Jim Bellet, Commissioner

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KLAMATH COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

305 MAIN STREET
KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON 97601
541-883-5100

5-5-2015

To:

Commissioner Jim Bellet
Commissioner Kelley Minty-Morris
Commissioner Tom Mallams

Dear Klamath County Commissioners:

On April 9, 2015 the Klamath County Natural Resource Advisory Council made a recommendation that the Klamath County Commissioners support the Union County Commissioners asking that the Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission take steps to delist gray wolves under the Oregon Endangered Species Act.

This recommendation is made following the 2010 update of the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan which focused on methods and procedures to protect wolves in the early stages of implementation so that the species could be delisted and a self-sustaining population persist.

The five delisting criteria identified in the plan have been met.

This committee fully supports the delisting of gray wolves in the State of Oregon.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Rabe", is written over a horizontal line.

Andrea Rabe, Chair
Klamath County Natural Resource Council