

# SUPPORT WOLF RECOVERY IN OREGON

**WOLVES ARE RETURNING HOME, BUT THEY NEED YOUR HELP!**



## BACK FROM THE BRINK

Once nearly driven to extinction in the lower 48, wolves have been making a remarkable recovery over the last two decades. As they do, scientists are learning more about the irreplaceable role they and other native hunters play in maintaining healthy landscapes.

In Oregon, the premature decision to remove wolves from the state endangered species list has made their future more tenuous. While the population has continued to grow, ongoing efforts to make it easier to kill wolves could cause long-term damage to Oregon's fragile wolf recovery.

Recent polling has revealed that a majority of Oregonians oppose hunting and trapping of wolves, and would like to see more resources allocated to implementing non-lethal tools as a way to prevent conflict with livestock.

For a state that values native wildlife, we expect our elected officials, fish and wildlife agency staff, and the Governor to support stronger protections for wolves.

Now more than ever, in Oregon, the fate of wolves is in our hands. Will the story have a happy ending? Or will we repeat past mistakes?



## WHAT YOU CAN DO

**LEARN ABOUT WOLVES:** Learn more and get involved by checking out the Oregon Wild website, liking Oregon's Wolves on Facebook, and joining the Wolf Pack.

**LEND YOUR VOICE:** One of the best ways to help wolves is by joining our Wild Ones program and becoming a citizen advocate. Wild Ones is our grassroots advocacy training program, focused on honing and refining your skills to be a stronger voice for wildlife and wild places.

**BECOME AN OREGON WILD MEMBER:** Oregon Wild is fighting for wolves in Salem, on the ground, and in court. We're educating the public and working in the field. We're also fighting to protect the big wild places that wolves and other native wildlife need to survive.

We need your support to do it.  
[www.oregonwild.org/donate](http://www.oregonwild.org/donate)





# WOLVES RETURN TO OREGON

Oregon's last wolf bounty was collected in 1947. Nearly 70 years later, wolves in Oregon have started to retake their place on the landscape, however recovery in Oregon remains fragile. A purposeful campaign of misinformation and fear, poaching, and harsh policies in neighboring states are real threats. Efforts at the state and federal levels continue to threaten wolves and undermine protections for all native wildlife. Oregon Wild is working with conservation partners and responsible stakeholders across the country to fight

for wolves and defend against efforts to undermine science-based protections. We're also working to educate the public and protect wolves and their habitat here in Oregon. Wolf recovery is poised to become one of America's greatest conservation success stories. Support Oregon Wild and ensure we learn from - rather than repeat - the mistakes of the past. Contact your elected leaders.

TELL THEM TO STAND UP FOR WOLVES AND WILDLIFE.

**WOLF RECOVERY IN OREGON HAS BEEN ON THE RIGHT TRACK, HOWEVER SEVERAL FACTORS COULD PUT THEIR FUTURE IN JEOPARDY.**

## BARRIERS TO RECOVERY

### POLITICIANS

Lawmakers in Salem and Washington, D.C. continue to push anti-wolf agendas based on misinformation and fear. As a result of powerful lobbying interests, like the livestock industry, elected officials have rolled back necessary protections for wolves. In particular, the removal of Endangered Species Act safeguards could threaten the fate of wolves.

### POACHING

In 2015, 1/3rd of collared wolves were killed illegally. For a recovering population, that significant loss can negatively affect the species' ability to make a full return. It should be a top priority for The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Oregon State Police to find and prosecute poachers. The future of wolves depends on it.

### POLICY

In Oregon, most management decisions for wolves are driven by policies included in the Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (Wolf Plan). Voted into law by the Fish and Wildlife Commission, this decision-making body has created a system that

rewards bad science and unpopular policies (such as making it easier to kill wolves) over peer-reviewed, independent science and policies which are supported by a majority of Oregonians.

### GENETICS AND DISEASE

With a small population contained mostly in the northeast corner of the state, any disease outbreak could have a detrimental effect on the species. A lack of genetic diversity has proven challenging for wolves around the country, and similarly, if Oregon's wolves are prevented from expanding their range and growing their population, we could experience a collapse. For example, in 2016, one of the few breeding females in central Oregon (OR-28) was illegally killed by a poacher. OR-28 was originally from the Mt. Emily pack in northeastern Oregon, making her one of the few dispersers outside of the region to not be biologically connected to the Imnaha pack.

