

April 29, 2024

RE: Please Vote NO on H.R. 764, the “Trust the Science Act”

Dear Representative,

On behalf of our 103 organizations and our combined millions of members and supporters, we write to urge you to vote NO on H.R. 764, the Trust the Science Act, which is expected to be considered on the House floor this week.

H.R. 764, sponsored by Rep. Lauren Boebert, directs the Secretary of the Interior to reissue the final rule published on November 3, 2020, delisting the gray wolf within 60 days of enactment. The bill bars judicial review of the Secretary’s action delisting the wolf.

The gray wolf is an iconic keystone species that plays a vital role in keeping America’s ecosystems healthy. Gray wolf populations in the United States were decimated by decades of predator control programs, as well as loss of habitat and prey. Since receiving protection under the ESA in 1974, the gray wolf has begun a comeback, but remains far from recovered.

The rule that H.R. 764 would reinstate was hastily issued by the FWS at the end of the Trump administration to delist gray wolves in 44 states. The rule was challenged by conservation organizations and vacated by a federal district court in February 2022. The court found that the delisting decision improperly relied on two core populations to delist wolves nationally, failed to provide a reasonable interpretation of what constitutes a “significant” portion of the species’ range, ignored the fact that the ancestry of West Coast wolves was distinct from northern Rockies wolves, and did not consider for the impact of lost historical range on gray wolves.

The “Trust the Science Act” undermines the integrity of the ESA by forcing the reinstatement of the Trump administration’s scientifically indefensible delisting rule and precluding judicial review, undermining the rule of law that holds government officials accountable in the courts.

We urge you to vote NO on H.R. 764. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Animal Defenders International

Animal Legal Defense Fund

Animal Protection New Mexico

Animal Welfare Institute

Animal Wonders

Apex Protection Project

Associated Humane Societies

Attorneys for Animals, Inc.

Biophilia Foundation

Bold visions conservation

Born Free USA

Carnivore Coexistence Lab

Cascadia Wildlands
Center for Biological Diversity
Clean Water Action
Coexisting with Cougars in Klickitat County
Colorado Voters for Animals
Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center
ColoradoWild
Conservation Connection Foundation/LifeOutdoors.org
Conservation Voters New Mexico
Conservatives for Responsible Stewardship
Defenders of Wildlife
Earthjustice
Endangered Habitats League
Endangered Species Coalition
Environment America
Environmental Action
Environmental Protection Information Center - EPIC
Footloose Montana
FOUR PAWS USA
Friends of the Earth Action
Friends of Wisconsin Wolf and Wildlife
Grand Canyon Wolf Recovery Project
Great Lakes Wildlife Alliance
Great Old Broads for Wilderness
Howling For Wolves
Humane Action Pennsylvania
International Wildlife Coexistence Network
John Muir Project
Kettle Range Conservation Group
Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center
Latino Outdoors
League of Conservation Voters
Legal Rights for the Salish Sea
Living with Wolves
Los Angeles Audubon Society
Madrean Archipelago Wildlife Center
Montana Wilderness Education School
National Parks Conservation Association
National Wolfwatcher Coalition
Natural Resources Defense Council
New Mexico Sportsmen
New Mexico Wild
North Central Washington Audubon Society
Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness

Northern California Council, Fly Fishers International
Northern Rockies Conservation Cooperative
Oasis Earth
Oceanic Preservation Society
Oil Change International
Oregon League of Conservation Voters
Oregon Natural Desert Association
Oregon Wild
Plan B to Save Wolves
Project Coyote
Public Interest Coalition
Resource Renewal Institute
RESTORE: The North Woods
Rio Grande Indivisible, New Mexico
Rocky Mountain Wild
Rocky Mountain Wolf Project
Save Our Sky Blue Waters
Shining Horizons Land Management
Sierra Club
Silvix Resources
Southwest Colorado Wolf Cooperative
The #RelistWolves Campaign
The 06 Legacy
The Conservation Angler
The Maine Wolf Coalition, Inc.
The Rewilding Institute
The Urban Wildlands Group
Trap Free Montana
Turner Endangered Species Fund
Turtle Island Restoration Network
Upper Gila Watershed Alliance
Urban Wildlife Rescue
Voices of Wildlife in New Hampshire
Washington Wildlife First
Western Watersheds Project
Western Wildlife Conservancy
Wild Dog Foundation
WildEarth Guardians
Wilderness Watch
Wildlife for All
Wolf Conservation Center
Wolf Hollow
Wolves of the Rockies
Wyoming Untrapped

Wyoming Wildlife Advocates