



STEWARDS OF OUR EARTH All of God's Creation

Social Justice Committee, Holy Cross Parish, Mt. Airy, May 14, 2023

A Wolf's Pack is Their Family

“When wolves are hunted and killed, the impact on the rest of the pack is catastrophic. Finding food becomes harder. There will be fewer pups to keep the pack strong. Sometimes the pack will break apart completely. But **new threats could mean that even more wolf packs are in the crosshairs...**

In the Northern Rockies states where gray wolves have already been delisted, they've been slaughtered by the hundreds this [past] winter.... And after they lost Endangered Species Act protections in 2020, hunters killed one out of every five Wisconsin wolves in just a couple of days.”
(*Environmental Action*, 4/21/23)

How much do you know about wolves? See how many of these facts you know and how many are new:

Fact #1: Oh, what big teeth they have! Wolves have 42 teeth -- the same as dogs, and 10 more teeth than humans have.

Fact #2: Wolves are toe-tappers. They run on their toes, not their pads. This helps them run faster and more nimbly.

Fact #3: They need their moms. Wolf pups are born deaf and blind. Within a month, they start to see and hear. They're also born with blue eyes, which change color a month or two later.

Fact #4: Check the speedometer. Wolves can run about 36 to 38 miles per hour. That's a traffic ticket in most human neighborhoods.

Fact #5: How well do they smell? Wolves have over 200 million cells designed to detect scents. People have a paltry 5 to 6 million.

Fact #6: Was that a dog whistle? A wolf can hear sounds from up to 6 miles away.

Fact #7: Wolf voices carry. People can't hear most sounds from 6 miles away, but there is a notable exception to this rule. We can hear a wolf howl from a little more than 6 miles away.

Fact #8: Bon appetit. Wolves are big eaters. A wolf can eat 20 pounds in one meal.

(*Environmental Action*, 4/17/23)

Now those trying to dismantle the Endangered Species Act are also proposing a bill “**that would allow habitat to be destroyed** — and then claim that since wildlife don't live there at the moment, it doesn't need protection. But the science is clear that you can't save species, and you can't stop the extinction crisis without protecting the lands and waters they need to live. This attack comes after a separate bill was introduced to take away federal protection from gray wolves across the lower 48.”
(Kieran Suckling, *Center for Biological Diversity*, 4/26/23)

Gray wolves in the Lower 48 are already threatened with extinction. Today, gray wolves occupy less than 10% of their historic range (Matthew Daly, *The Denver Post*, 11/16/18). Yet still, vulnerable wolves are being hunted and killed by Wildlife Services. To make matters worse, the agency will use cruel and inhumane methods including leg hold traps, snares, and poisons. (Oliver Milman, *The Guardian*, 3/25/22)

Use your voice to **join the wolf howls** and to keep more families of wolves from being torn apart by human hands. [Demand that the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service protect all wolves under the Endangered Species Act before it's too late!](#)

Until [we extend] the circle of compassion to all living things, [humans] will not find peace. Albert Schweitzer