



September 23, 2008

CERTIFIED MAIL | RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
Also sent this date via e-mail to primary recipients.

The Honorable Dirk Kempthorne
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240
exsec@ios.doi.gov

H. Dale Hall, Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C. Street, N.W.
Mailstop 3238 MIB
Washington, D.C. 20240
dale_hall@fws.gov

Re: Petition for a recovery plan and critical habitat designation for the gray wolf (*Canis lupus*) in the Southern Rocky Mountains.

Secretary Kempthorne and Director Hall:

Please find attached a petition from WildEarth Guardians to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to develop and implement a recovery plan for the gray wolf in the Southern Rocky Mountains pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1531 § et seq. (ESA), and Section 553 of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), 5 U.S.C. 553. We further request designation of critical habitat for this species in the Southern Rockies, pursuant to provisions of the ESA, 16 U.S.C. § 1532(5)(B) and the APA, 5 U.S.C. § 553(e) and 50 C.F.R. § 424.14(d).

This cover letter precedes a copy of the petition and all appendices in both electronic (PDF) and hard copy format (hard copy sent this date via certified mail/return receipt).

If you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 303.573.4898 ext. 762.

For the Wild,

Rob Edward, Director
Carnivore Recovery Program
WildEarth Guardians

cc: Congressman Mark Udall
Tom Remington, Director, Colorado Division of Wildlife