

The Reality of Wolf Reintroduction in Catron County

➤ A Different Perspective



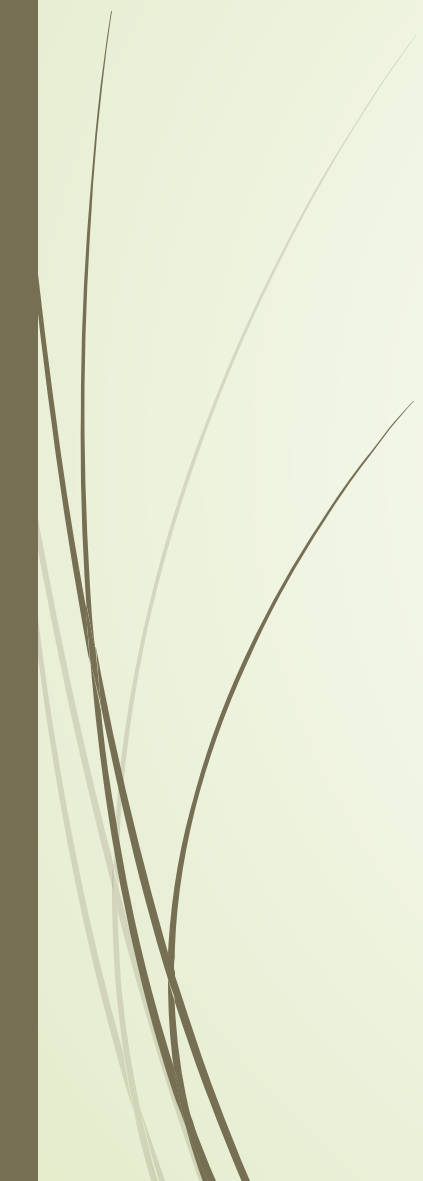
Opening Thought

- I advocate for more wolves — a lot more.
- Let others experience what we live with.



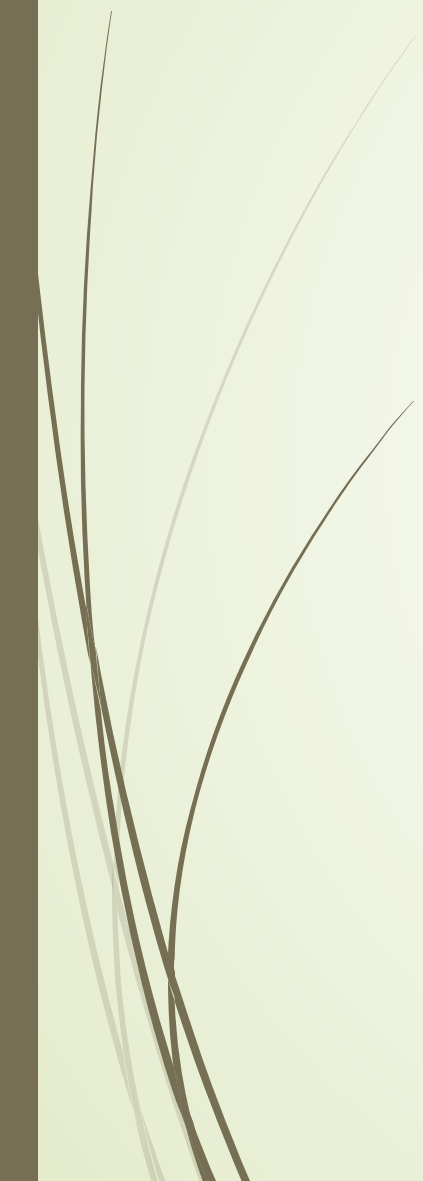


Why Catron County?

- • Vast federal lands
 - • Sparse population
 - • Minimal political resistance
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Walk a Mile in Our Shoes

- “To understand a man, walk a mile in his shoes.”
 - (Old Proverb)
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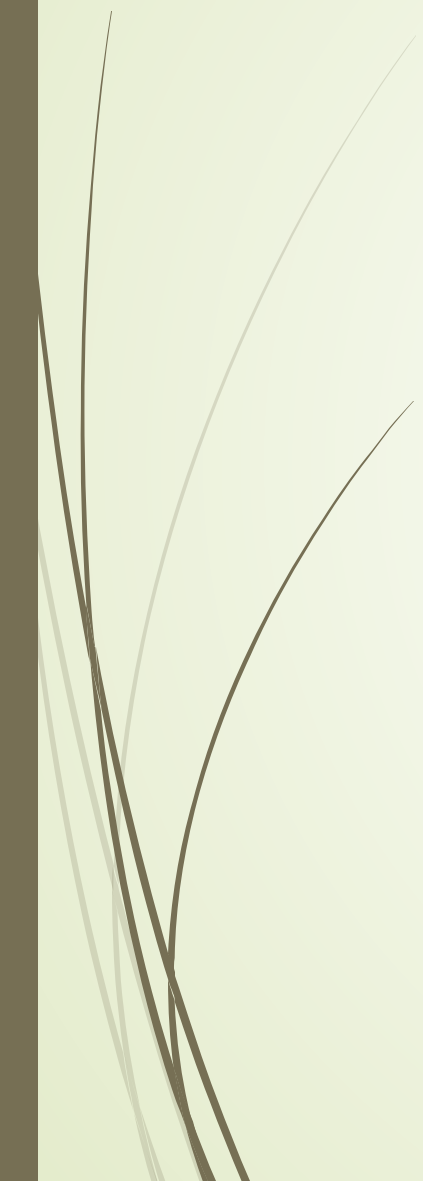


Game and Fish Department Mission

- “To conserve, regulate, propagate, and protect the wildlife and fish within the state of New Mexico...”

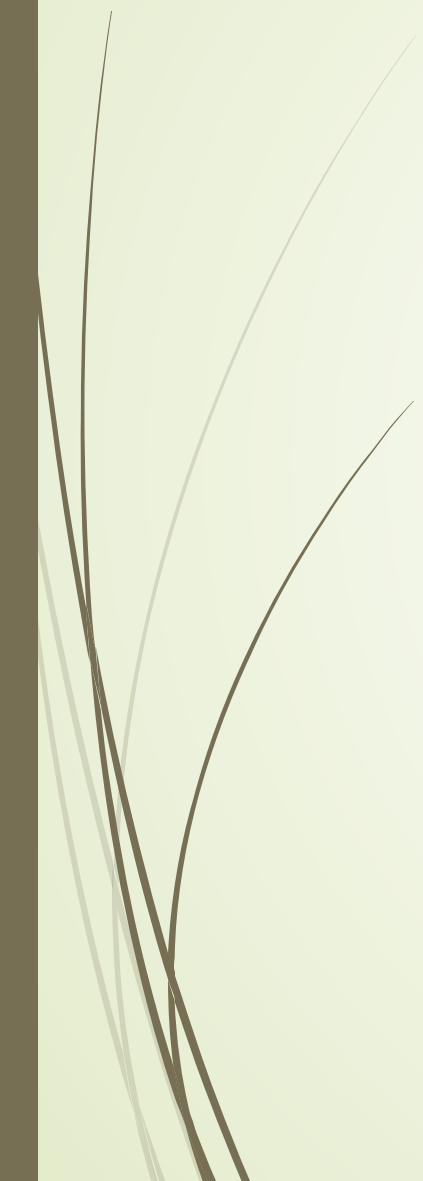


The Wolf: A Unique Predator

- • Pack hunting power
 - • Highly social structure
 - • Hunts for sport
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Changes I've Seen

- • Mule deer sightings rare
 - • Wild turkey vanished
 - • Loss of biodiversity
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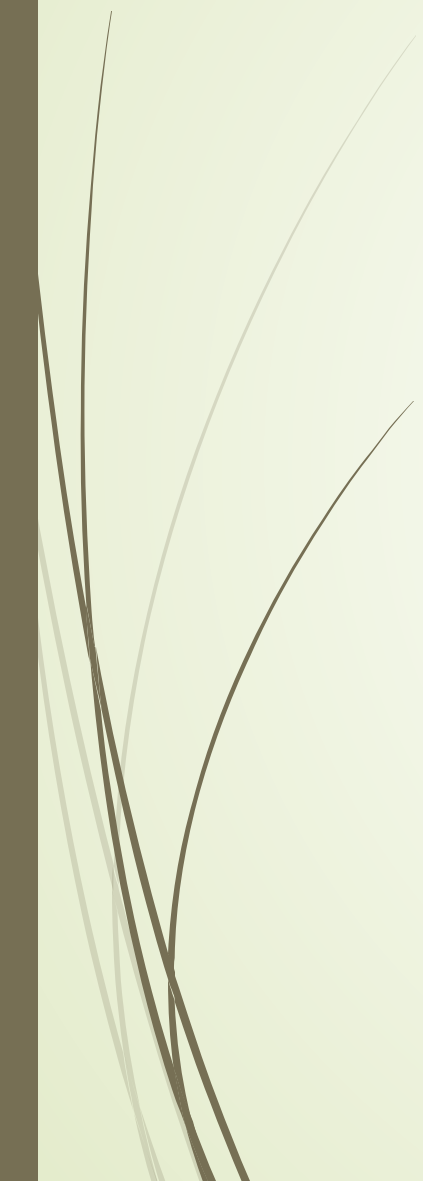


Economic Impact

- • Nearly \$1 billion/year to NM economy
 - • License sales = \$20M annually
 - • Rural areas depend on Game and Fish efforts
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Wolf Population Density

- • 286 wolves on 2 million acres (NM/AZ)
 - • 100 wolves in Yellowstone (same size)
 - • 230 wolves across 6 million acres (WA)
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Reasonable Requests Ignored

- • GPS collar data access
- • Restore original Standards of Evidence (SOE)
- • Lethal control when necessary



The 500% Increase

- • Probable depredations:
 - - 6 in 2023
 - - 30+ in 2024

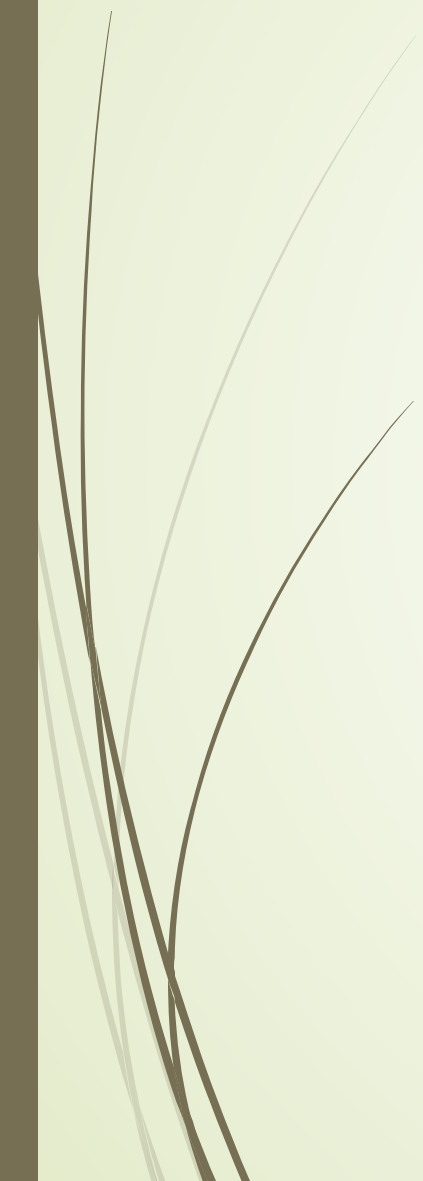


What Happens If Nothing Changes?

- • 10% growth = 500 wolves by 2030
 - • Loss of hunting industry
 - • Loss of livestock industry
 - • Public safety crisis
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Public Safety Crisis

- • Wolves in town streets
 - • Wolves on school playgrounds
 - • Pets taken from porches
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More







If It Were Santa Fe or Albuquerque...

- Would Game and Fish sit idly by if:
 - Wolves stalked schoolchildren?
 - Pets were taken off porches?



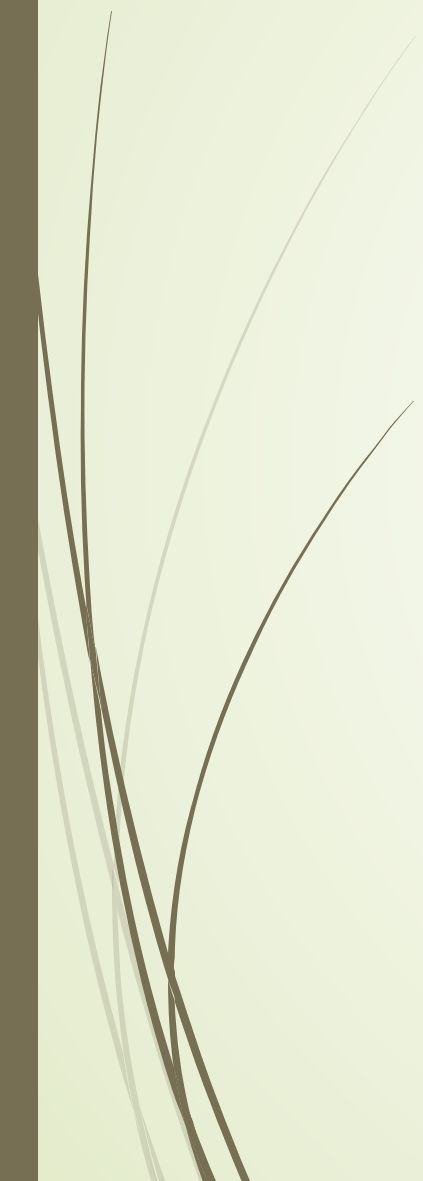
Wolf Attack Statistics



- • 32 attacks in North America since 1995
- • 3 fatal
- • No rabid wolves included

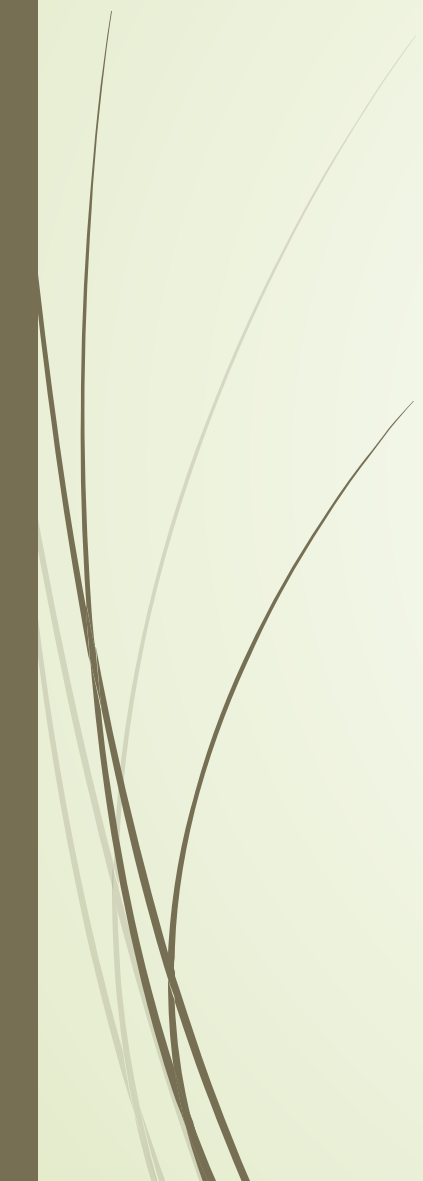


Catron County's Resolution

- • April 3rd: Special meeting held
 - • Public Safety Disaster declared
 - • Plea for Governor's action
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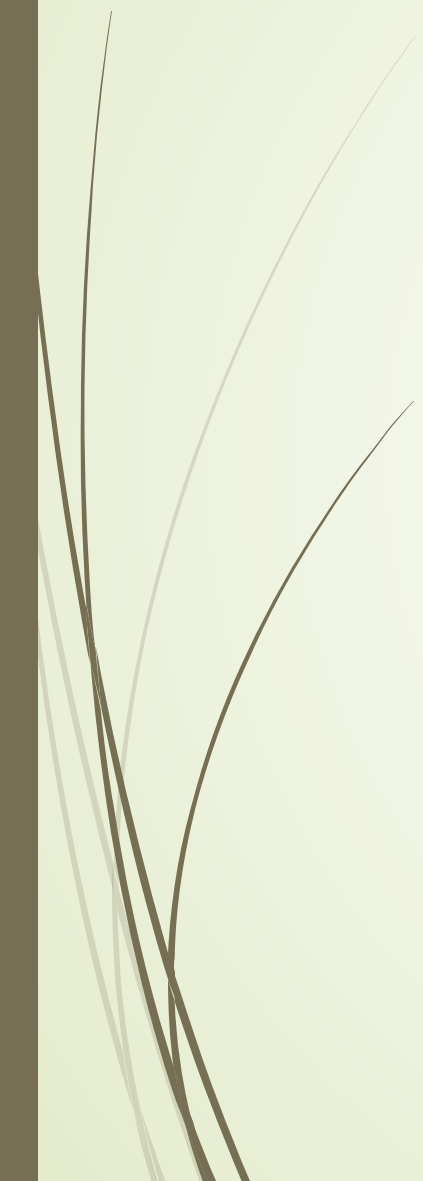


Ranchers and Wildlife Conservation

- • Ranchers provide water and salt for wildlife
 - • Vital to ecosystem stability, especially in drought
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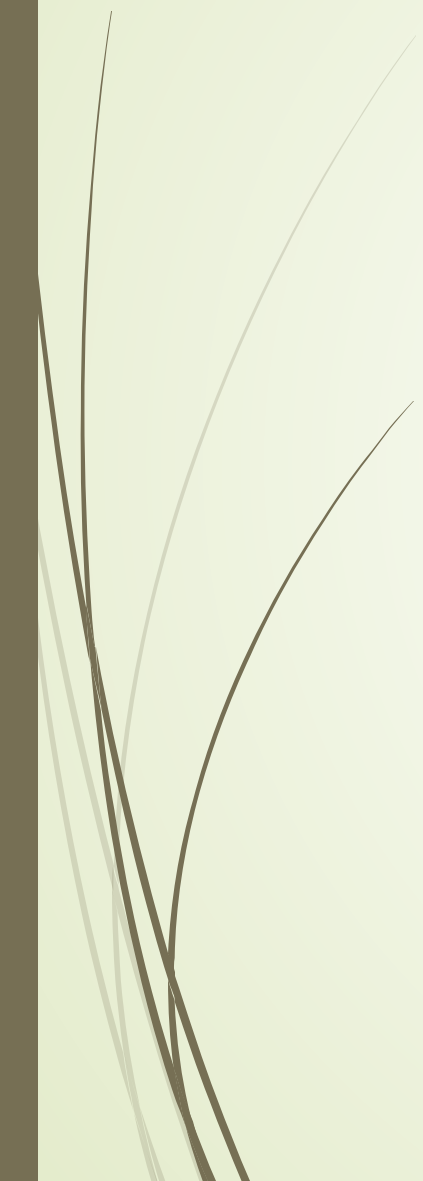


Questions for Game and Fish

- • Why deny GPS collar access?
 - • Why abandon effective SOE standards?
 - • Why refuse lethal control when needed?
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Final Thought

- Catron County residents are not uneducated or anti-wildlife.
 - We love our land. We fight to protect it.
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Closing Statement

- Will the New Mexico Game and Fish Department stand with us?