

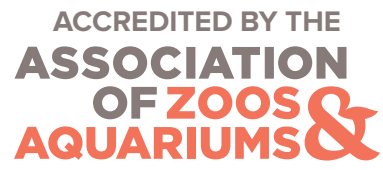


COLORADO WOLF & WILDLIFE CENTER

AUGUST 2026 • CONSERVATION • EDUCATION • PRESERVATION



BEST FRIENDS
Kira & Geronimo



The Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center

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The contents of the material we include in our newsletter does not necessarily reflect the views of CWWC. We collect information from other organizations, the web, news feeds, and/or other sources. We choose articles that are in the related field of education and conservation.



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| SOCIAL MEDIA HAPPENINGS |

Stay up to date with the animals at CWWC, wolves and wildlife in the news, and advocacy opportunities.



Subscribe to our YouTube Channel: ColoradoWolf&WildlifeCenter We post videos of the training and enrichment we are providing for our animals, and educational vlogs about wolves.



Follow us on Facebook: Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center to get updates on new YouTube video postings, read feel good stories from other wolf/wildlife organizations, and learn about new wildlife findings in the research field.



Follow us on Instagram: @cowolfcenter to see pictures of our beautiful animals, stories of what we are doing around the center, and ways you can help wild wolf populations. Keep your eye on our story for fun videos of the day to day lives of our wolves and keepers.



CWWC is on Bluesky! Follow us: @cowolfcenter.bsky.social



Follow us on Twitter: @Wolves_at_CWWC to see photos of our animals, read fun facts, and hear about events happening at CWWC.



Follow us on TikTok: @cowolfcenter for the videos you won't see on our other social media pages.

We hope to give you something to look forward to every day!

Collecting for our brave firefighters



BE AWARE!!!! THIS IS DANGEROUS TO ALL WILDLIFE. VOTE NO!

Note: Amendment 84 has the potential of changing the number again from #302 to #84. The final number will be on September 3rd, 2026, however the language is still the same. **PLEASE share with family, friends and social media!**

COLORADO VOTERS SPEAK UP FOR WILDLIFE VOTE NO ON 84

**THE “RIGHT TO HUNT AND FISH”
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED USES
MISLEADING AND DECEPTIVE
LANGUAGE TO CONFUSE VOTERS. COLORADO
RESIDENTS ALREADY HAVE THE RIGHT TO HUNT AND FISH.
NO ONE IS TAKING THAT RIGHT AWAY.**

THIS AMENDMENT COULD:

- TAKE POWER AWAY FROM CPW AND THE PUBLIC
- COULD CAUSE NEAR-UNLIMITED, NEAR-UNREGULATED HUNTING LEADING TO OVER-HUNTING OF MANY NATIVE AND THREATENED SPECIES
- COULD ALLOW ARCHAIC AND PREVIOUSLY BANNED METHODS OF TRAPPING TO RETURN SUCH AS STEEL-LEGHOLD TRAPS, BAITING, AND SNARES
- WITH VAGUE LANGUAGE OUTLINING THE PROPOSITION THAT IS NOT DEFINED SUCH AS “TRADITIONAL METHODS,” “PREFERRED MEANS,” AND “NECESSARY,” DECISIONS WOULD BE UP FOR INTERPRETATION BY COURTS AND LAWYERS, **NOT** BIOLOGISTS OR WILDLIFE SCIENTISTS
- THIS WOULD LOCK OUR CONSTITUTION AND GIVE HUNTING AND FISHING PREFERRED STATUS IN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Please be her voice!

I WAS SHOT

BY A HUNTER THAT THOUGHT I WAS A COYOTE

- **I AM ENDANGERED**
- **I HAD A BRIGHT TRACKING COLLAR**
- **I COULD HAVE BECOME A BREEDING FEMALE**
- **I AM WORTH MORE THAN A MINOR CITATION**



BE MY VOICE



**SCAN TO EMAIL CPW
DIRECTOR CLELLAN & CPW
COMMISSIONERS**

**URGE FOR STRONGER
PROTECTIONS AND PENALTIES
IN YOUR OWN WORDS**

Tests Confirm Coyote Hunter Killed Wolf In Grand County

CBS Colorado | CBS News | May 29, 2015

KREMMLING, Colo. (CBS4) – The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service confirms DNA tests on an animal shot by a coyote hunter on April 29 near Kremmling prove the animal is in fact a wild gray wolf.

"This was a wild wolf killed in Grand County," said Steve Segin, a public affairs officer with the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The FWS is still investigating the incident, and there is no word if the hunter, who apparently thought the animal -- which he shot near Wolford Mountain Reservoir -- was a coyote.

The animal did not have a collar, ear tag or PIT tag when it was inspected.

"Obviously, killing an endangered species is illegal," Segin said. "What's important is the hunter did the right thing and contacted Parks and Wildlife."

The name of the hunter has not been released.

Gray wolves in Colorado are protected under the Endangered Species Act, though the state is not home to an officially recognized population of the species. However, they are capable of covering long distances and have been confirmed as at least visiting Colorado in the recent past.

Gary Wockner is an expert on the wolf situation in the West. He says since 2005 at least three other wild wolves have been killed inside Colorado borders.

One of those notable wolf cases in northwest Colorado took place in 2009 in Rio Blanco County, where a wolf was found dead and later determined to have been killed by a banned poison. That wolf traveled more than 1,000 miles from Montana.

It is not unusual behavior for wolves to cover such distances, Segin said.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife officials say there is not a population of wolves in the state, but that does not mean the animals are not here coming from other western states.

Photo: USFWS



No charges in Kremmling wolf shooting

Ski-Hi News Staff | Sky-Hi News | November 25, 2015



Mexican gray wolf (*Canis lupus*) standing on rock in a forest. Photo: istock/gnagel

A coyote hunter who shot a gray wolf near Kremmling on April 29 will not face criminal charges, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has said.

After conducting a joint investigation, the Fish and Wildlife Service, Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the U.S. Department of Justice determined the man was legally hunting coyotes when he mistook the male wolf for a coyote.

The man immediately reported the incident to authorities.

A DNA analysis from at the Fish and Wildlife Service Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Ore., confirmed the animal was a wolf.

Gray wolves are protected under the Endangered Species Act, and knowingly killing a wolf carries criminal

penalties.

The Fish and Wildlife Service announced in June that a coyote hunter who shot a female gray wolf near the Grand Canyon in December 2014 would not face charges because he believed the animal was a coyote.

Fish and Wildlife Service officials previously told the Sky-Hi News that the wolf killed near Kremmling was likely a "disperser," or a lone wolf leaving its pack and striking out on its own.

The behavior is typical for gray wolves, which have established populations in Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

Dispersers have been found as far afield as South Dakota, Colorado and the Grand Canyon.

Take Action for Colorado's Wildlife



In July, the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Commission voted to end unlimited killing of coyotes, bobcats, foxes, badgers, and other "furbearers." This was a strong step in the right direction made possible by supporters like you.

Now we're asking the Commission to keep advancing science-based policies. At its September meeting, we want CPW to:

- Establish a closed hunting and trapping season for coyotes. Right now they can be killed year-round, even while denning and raising pups.
- End small game licenses for killing coyotes, requiring a "furbearer"-specific license instead.
- Require mandatory reporting for all "furbearers" killed, so CPW finally has accurate data.

TAKE ACTION

These changes would bring Colorado's coyote management in line with current science and ethics and build on the progress we already won this year for "furbearers." Sign on to our comments to CPW to call for science-based policies for Colorado's wildlife now.



For Colorado's wildlife,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Mark".

Mark Surls

Colorado & Northern Rockies Coordinator

A third wolf has been caught in a leg-hold trap

Colorado voters banned these traps for most purposes in 1996, so why have three wolves been captured by them, and two died, in three years?

Clint Talbott | Science for Colorado Wildlife | August 10, 2026



A wolf caught in a leg-hold trap. Image courtesy of Untrapped Wyoming

Since being reintroduced to Colorado, three wolves have been caught in leg-hold traps that voters banned for recreational purposes in 1996.

Two of those wolves have died. At least two of those traps were set by federal agents with Wildlife Services, a branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture that conducts predator-control operations.

The facts speak for themselves. Three decades ago, Colorado voters passed Amendment 14, which banned leg-hold traps and snares for recreational uses. One exception allows landowners to use them after other legal methods have failed to stop livestock or crop depredation.

Wolves are a federally protected endangered species in Colorado. So why are federal agents setting traps in areas used by wolves? And why doesn't Colorado Parks and Wildlife, which oversees wolf reintroduction in this state, limit such trapping?

Good questions.

Science for Colorado Wildlife filed public-records requests with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and USDA Wildlife Services, and documents obtained via the federal Freedom of Information Act confirmed that the third wolf was trapped and released in May.

The latest wolf-trapping was also confirmed by Travis Duncan, CPW public information supervisor, who said his agency “was notified of a trapped and released wolf by Wildlife Services.”

In 2024, a wolf was caught in a leg-hold trap meant for a coyote in Elbert County. The 84-pound male gray wolf, which had wandered in from the Great Lakes region, died.

Then in May 2025, wolf 2512 was also captured in a leg-hold trap and died the day after being released. After that wolf’s death, CPW stopped issuing 30-day-trapping permits for landowners. Also in the wake of

that death, CPW advised landowners not to set leg-hold traps meant for coyotes “in areas where wolves are or may be present.” Last summer, CPW told landowners that the 30-day exemption under Amendment 14 “does not provide a shield from liability for the accidental capture or injury to a gray wolf when that capture was foreseeable.”

Records released via FOIA (see below) give new insight into what happened on May 14, 2025: A CPW officer received a GPS signal indicating a wolf was near a leg-hold trap set for a coyote by Wildlife Services.



United States Department of Agriculture

United States Department of Agriculture

Marketing and Regulatory Programs

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Wildlife Services

13922 Denver West Pkwy, Building 54 Suite 100-WS Golden CO 80401 303.328.9041 303.328.9047 fax

May 16, 2025

Subject: Wildlife Services Colorado – Incidental Capture

On Wednesday morning May 14th, a Wildlife Services (WS) employee, working in Northwest Colorado, was notified by a local Colorado Parks and Wildlife officer that a wolf GPS collar had been identified in the general geographic area. The WS-CO employee was performing operational activities under a cooperative service agreement with a cattle and sheep producer on a private ranch to alleviate coyote depredation on livestock. The cattle and sheep producer had been issued a 30-day trapping exemption permit by CPW and WS was acting as an agent of the producer. The trapping exemption permit was issued May 6th by CPW personnel and equipment had been deployed shortly thereafter by WS.

The WS-CO employee performed standard trap check procedures as outlined by CPW rules and regulations per the 30-day exemption, and was daily inspecting the area, while performing operations, for wolf sign, tracks, scat etc. (per guidance issued by WS-CO on March 12th, 2025. See email attached). Upon notification by CPW, that a wolf was in the general vicinity, on Wednesday May 14th, the WS-CO employee immediately conducted a trap check.

A live adult black female wolf weighing approximately 80 lbs was located at a trap location in the shade of some vegetation. The animal was caught by the full front foot in a best management practice approved foot-hold trap. WS-CO immediately notified CPW, and 1 officer responded. The CPW officer recorded video of the wolf in the trap and then both personnel released the wolf using a catch-pole without incident. CPW fired cracker shells immediately following the release to haze the wolf away from the general vicinity.

CPW then advised the WS-CO employee to keep operating under the 30-day trapping exemption permit. Per the WS and USFWS Section 7 consultation, the WS-CO employee moved to performing daily trap checks. While performing trap checks the next day May 15th, the WS-CO employee observed 2 CPW officials and a USFWS special agent exiting the private land. Both parties stopped and the USFWS special agent asked WS-CO personnel for a formal interview. The WS-CO employee then performed a recorded interview. Later, the WS-CO employee was informed that CPW and USFWS had been responding and investigating a mortality signal from a wolf GPS collar.

A 2025 Memorandum released via FOIA gives new insight into the death of wolf 2512. The USDA redacted an entire page redacted below the text that reads “a wolf GPS collar.”

When officials checked the trap, they found an 80-pound female wolf (wolf 2512) caught by a front foot. CPW and Wildlife Services released the wolf, and the CPW officer allowed the federal agent to continue trapping.

Notably, CPW does not prohibit all leg-hold trapping in wolf-prone areas. Why? CPW says landowners have a constitutional right to use banned traps, as long as landowners meet the law’s requirements.

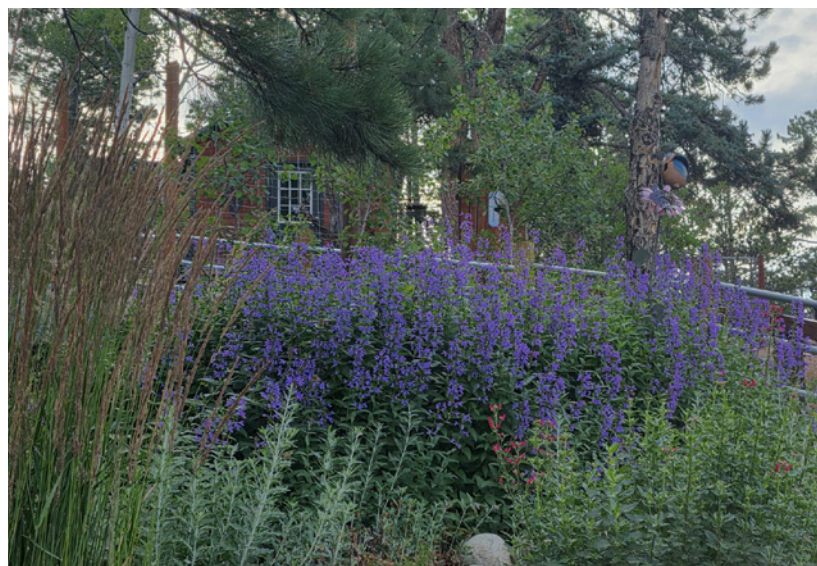
Nothing in the law requires CPW to verify that landowners have exhausted all legal means of coyote (or other depredating animal) control. But the law allows the agency to exercise stronger oversight. The law gives CPW the authority to send an officer to verify compliance with the law every time a landowner applies to use a banned trap. But the agency chooses not to do this.

Additionally, CPW suggests that there a constitutional right to set traps that could harm an endangered species.

Amendment 14 and state law recognize that banned traps are inhumane. That’s why state law requires the agency to “honor the expressed desire of the people of Colorado to promote humane methods of animal control and discourage the use of inhumane methods while preserving the ability to protect human life, health, safety, and property by taking wildlife when there is no practical alternative.”

Is CPW doing all in its power to honor the expressed desire of the people? Are inhumane traps used only when there is “no practical alternative”? Are endangered species fully protected?

These are rhetorical questions.



Rick's beautiful gardens at the Center



FULL MOON TOUR MEET AND GREET



How To Help Your Backyard Hummingbirds In August – 5 Ways to Support These Beautiful Creatures as They Prepare for Migration

Sarah Wilson | Homes and Garden | August 14, 2026



(Image credit: Tom Applegate/Getty Images)

In August, hummingbirds get very busy in the garden. If you have hummingbird feeders expect plenty of hungry birds to gather in your yard as they stock up on essential nourishment for the gruelling migration journey that lies ahead. You can play a key role in supporting them as they prepare and encourage repeat visits during this important period.

No matter how large or small your backyard, following these simple wildlife garden ideas will create a welcoming haven for hummingbirds. With any luck many of your visitors will be returning birds, as these enchanting creatures are known to remember the gardens they've found food in previously.

Making sure your garden is planted with plenty of late-season nectar-giving flowers is key to attracting hummingbird activity in August, as it providing feeders to supplement their diet (red glass ones, such as this beautiful hummingbird feeder from Amazon, are ideal) together with plenty of fresh drinking water to help them cope with the heat. Follow these five expert tips and you may be lucky enough to still have hummingbirds in your yard as late as Halloween.

5 Ways To Help Hummingbirds In August

As summer starts to wind down find out how to attract hummingbirds to your garden in August. There's a hummingbird migration map you can follow too that includes info on spottings in your local area, and don't forget hummingbirds are overwintering on the Gulf Coast in greater numbers than in the past due to milder winters.

'April through September are the hummingbird months in the Northern Hemisphere, with May through August being the peak months of activity,' says Robert S Mulvihill, ornithologist at the National Avery.

'As females feed their young almost strictly on small insects, not on nectar, it's not uncommon for people to notice a big drop in the number of visits to their feeders in late June. But, after the young fledge and begin to become independent in July, the feeder activity will pick up again, and it will continue all the way through the fall migration, from August through September.'

The best hummingbird garden isn't necessarily the largest one, and the following observations apply particularly in August. 'In my experience, consistency is what matters most,' says Siobhan Shaw, co-founder of Growing to Give.

'This means planting flowers that attract hummingbirds,

and offering clean nectar, water, shelter, and a pesticide-free environment. Once hummingbirds discover a garden that reliably provides those things, they have every reason to return.'

You can find hummingbird nectar that is ready to use from Walmart, no diluting or mixing needed, and it has added minerals to help keep these beautiful creatures healthy.

1. Keep Natural Supplies Of Nectar Coming

Hummingbirds are attracted to yards that have food sources and a good mix of sun and shade, and they need a safe perch to sit on in between their meals, so a small tree or shrub near your feeders is always a good idea. It's also important



(Image credit: Christina Rollo/Alamy Stock Photo)

to leave perennials blooming for longer, especially the ones hummingbirds love.

'Hummingbirds are attracted by the presence of reliable nectar sources, whether feeders, patches of red or orange garden flowers, and hummingbird-adapted wildflowers like cardinal flower and scarlet bee balm,' says Robert. Hummingbirds also love royal catchfly, the perfect native plant to provide them with a late-season source of nectar. Native honeysuckles are another good choice for hummingbirds in August.

To sustain their supercharged metabolisms, hummingbirds must eat once every 10 to 15 minutes and visit between 1,000 and 2,000 flowers per day, according to the National Audobon Society.

'So, make sure your outdoor space has lots of flowers of the type hummingbirds prefer,' says Robert. 'This is pretty much any red or orange flower having a long corolla tube, and lacking any structures that butterflies or bees could easily use as a perch.'

Another idea is these flowers to plant in August for

hummingbirds that will help them on their journey south.

2. Put Feeders Back Up (If You Already Took Them Down)

If hummingbirds stopped visiting your yard in early summer you may have taken their feeders down, assuming there was no point keeping them up as the hummingbirds hadn't chosen your yard to nest in. Alternatively you may have taken them down because the young hummingbirds have moved out.

August is an important month to put the feeders back up. Migration lies ahead for hummingbirds so they need to build up their strength. The aim is to increase their body fat for the journey so they need a good supply of nectar. In addition newly fledged juveniles need to feed, and early migrants will be passing through too. So keep feeders up until October, as it's possible to get hummingbirds in your yard until late fall.

It's important to know where to place a hummingbird feeder too, even if you think you've got it nailed. It's a good idea to add several more feeders as migration gets closer, especially if you notice a dominant bird monopolizing a feeder.

'Hummingbird behavior can be aggressively territorial as birds fight over feeders,' says August Abbot, a certified avian specialist and founder of The Broken Birds Sanctuary. 'To keep the peace and make room add multiple feeders generously spaced apart and at different heights. Spacing feeders 8 or more feet apart gives birds their own feeding stations and reduces fighting.'

Keep feeders out of relentless direct heat (and avoid these other hummingbird feeder mistakes too), adds August. 'If a feeder gets too much sun, hang a sunshade over it to block the harsh mid-day heat or move it to a shadier location.'

3. Refill Feeders Regularly And Keep Them Clean

Prepare for hot August weather by making sure you refill feeders regularly, especially if you don't have a regular supply of nectar offered by red and orange flowers in the garden.

'Be sure that you fill and refill your hummingbird feeder frequently with a 4:1 solution of water to table sugar (not honey or brown sugar) that does not have red dye added. The red parts on commercial hummingbird feeders are more



(Image credit: Joe Regan / Getty Images)

continues on next page...

than enough to attract the birds, and red dyes can be harmful to them,' says Robert.

You can make up a supply of sugar water and keep it in your refrigerator for up to a week. Be sure to change the water in your feeders regularly, and clean them well between every refilling, at least every 2-3 days to prevent harmful bacteria and mold from developing. If it's very hot change the water every other day.

'Many people mix sugar and water over heat, with some thinking it needs to boil,' says August. 'Actually, it's as simple as stirring the sugar into hot water until it dissolves, which usually takes just a minute or two.'

Resist the urge to make the solution sweeter as this will make the hummingbirds thirstier, and August is such a dry month anyway. Instead try hanging a piece of fruit in a mesh bag to attract fruit flies, as insects are a major part of a hummingbird's diet too. Find out how to clean hummingbird feeders to keep these garden visitors happy.

4. Set Up A Mister Or Other Cooling Treat

'Water matters enormously, particularly if you live in the desert,' says Siobhan. 'Hummingbirds don't simply use water the way larger birds do. I've watched them fly through a fine spray from a hose, hovering in the mist and getting their feathers wet. A gentle mister or moving water source can provide both drinking and bathing opportunities while also helping birds cope with intense heat.'

We fully recommend the Mademax solar bird bath fountain, available from Amazon. It's quick and easy to set up and turns a bird bath into an oasis for hummingbirds.

Try this Garden Hose Misting Nozzle from Amazon, which has an adjustable water spray pattern that includes delicate misting for cooling down hot birds.



(Image credit: pr2is/Getty Images)

Another idea is to offer shallow bird baths to bathe in as it's a great way to help hummingbirds beat the heat. When watering flowers as temperatures rise, especially if there isn't normal rainfall, sprinkle water onto shrubs too as hummingbirds in August will enjoy sitting on the cool leaves to escape the heat.

Hummingbirds are attracted to yards that have food sources and a good mix of sun and shade, and they need a safe perch to sit on in between their meals, so a small tree or shrub near your feeders is also a good idea.

Always make sure there is a supply of fresh drinking water available too. 'Another essential need for hummingbirds is a clean water source,' says August. 'Yes, sometimes they just need a good old-fashioned drink of water or even a little bath or shower. Having a water feature or modest fountain within sight of your hummingbird feeder fulfils this need beautifully, especially during prolonged summer heat.'



(Image credit: Supercaliphottolistic / iStock / Getty Images Plus / Getty Images)

5. Resist The Urge To Start Pruning The Garden

'I recommend that gardeners and landscapers resist the urge to do major pruning in August simply because summer is winding down,' says Siobhan. 'Hummingbirds may still be using shrubs and trees for shelter, and maintaining layers of vegetation gives them places to rest between feeding flights.'

Another important consideration for hummingbird migration in August is not to remove late-season flowers either. 'In our Arizona garden, penstemon, bottlebrush and salvia provide important nectar sources, and I like to keep them flowering for as long as possible,' says Siobhan.

These heat-tolerant plants can be especially valuable for hummingbirds in August, when the weather is brutally hot and natural nectar sources may be harder to find. 'I also encourage gardeners to plant for a succession of blooms so hummingbirds have something available as the seasons change.'

One final tip on how to care for hummingbirds in August: the amount of pests and predators in the garden escalates in high summer. Bees numbers rise in August and September, and they will of course be attracted to the nectar in the feeders.

Find out how to keep out ants, as well as preying mantis and spiders – all will be attracted to the feeders. Keep a close eye on them. Use easy to clean, low maintenance, ant and bee proof feeders. If racoons are a problem in your area bring the feeders in at night.

Chronic Wasting Disease

by Abigail Adams | August 14, 2026

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) was first found in northern Colorado in 1967. Since then, it has spread to 37 US states, as well as Canada, Norway, Finland, Sweden, and South Korea. CWD only targets cervids (deer, elk, etc.), and has no treatment or cure. What makes this disease so difficult to combat is the fact that it is actually caused by a protein rather than a pathogen or virus. Proteins do not trigger immune responses when introduced to a body and can linger in the environment for decades.

The protein that causes CWD is known as a prion, and in its healthy form it plays a role in the central nervous system. Prion diseases occur when a prion protein becomes misfolded, making it resistant to being broken down in the body. When a misfolded prion comes in contact with a healthy one, it causes that healthy one to misfold. The inability for these proteins to break down eventually results in symptoms like emaciation, excessive salivation, lack of coordination, excessive thirst and urination, a wide posture, repetitive courses, loss of fear, and finally death. It typically takes around two years for animals to begin showing symptoms, but they can spread the disease long before that.

With the decline of wolves in the US, deer populations have skyrocketed, allowing CWD to rapidly spread. Unsurprisingly, CWD has not thrived in areas where wolf populations are active. This is because wolves tend to target sickly animals because they are easy for them to take down, and they can eat CWD cervids without getting sick themselves. Almost all mammalshave healthy prion proteins, but the structures and amino acids of these proteins alter between species, which is why CWD only affects cervids. While CWD has not been found in other species, laboratory experiments have been able to manipulate non-cervid prions to misfold. That is, except for canids. Canid prions have been found to be extra resistant to folding, and this is because they have two very distinct amino acids that other species' prions don't have.

While human intervention, such as the culling of cervid herds, can help to deter the spread of CWD, it is clearly evident that it is not enough. To further manage the spread, we need more wolves to control cervid populations and weed out the sick. Wolves are able to discern which animals are sick through both visual and olfactory queues, even before they start showing symptoms. With the combined efforts of both humans and wolves, we will be in a better position to reduce sick populations and keep CWD from further spreading

Decoding the Howl

by Jay Kruman | August 27, 2026

The howl of a wolf, one of the most ancient expressions on our landscapes, and one nearly gone. The Cry Wolf Project, a research innovation project, spearheaded by Jeffrey T. Reed, seeks understanding of this prehistoric language, and how to ensure the continuation of the grey wolf's presence in the project's area of focus, and beyond. The method the project utilizes, is one they hope other researchers throughout the world adopt.

Traditional wildlife data collection is costly and labor intensive. Data collection tools such as auditory recording units, or ARUs, and visual tracking devices, such as trail cameras, are typically short-range and highly sensitive, often capturing false triggers, information wildlife researchers do not need. This includes the howling of the wind or the rustling of a bush, into data collection, causing hours of precious data memory to be squandered. Field researchers not only spend precious time and resources in the physical collection of this data, but also in the subsequent manual filtration of the recordings collected. The Cry Wolf Project implements the use of Artificial Intelligence, or AI, both in the software of its audio and visual recording devices, and in the analysis of the data they collect. This technology and practice increases the efficacy of integral wildlife research for the wolves in the project's eye, and can be adopted by other projects, expediting crucial conservation of what is left of the planet's wildlife.

The Cry Wolf Project's main research focus is on one of the greatest experiments in the Lower Forty-Eight, the reintroduction of grey wolves into Yellowstone National Park. The Cry Wolf Project utilizes their technology to capture the visual and auditory behavior of grey wolves, an elusive and integral species to the ecosystem. Through their methodological collection of this data, they seek answers in wolf vocalizations, a language they refer to as "wolfish". The audio collection of "wolfish" transfers into a visual representation, or a spectrogram, displaying the pitch, chronology, and amplitude of the singular and group howls, referred to as chorus howls. Through spectrograms, both humans and AI software employ pattern recognition, and with the help of visual and behavioral context of the wolves under study, theories of what a wolf's howl articulates, form. Wolves do not simply communicate through howls, but an array of verbalizations, such as yips, barks, and "woas". Each sound with its own intended communication, that the Cry Wolf Project pursues a cohesive understanding in, both singularly and modulated as a wolf "sentence".

The Cry Wolf Project seeks to accomplish many goals aside from understanding the howl. The project hopes that nonlethal management tools for ranchers with wolf-related conflict improve, accurate censuses of the animals in our country form, and researchers better understand how nature's shared soundscape shapes. Many answers The Cry Wolf Project seeks have yet to be found, but they give hope to the uncovering of the mystery of the howl, and how humans must utilize this understanding to protect one of the nation's most iconic and integral species.

Citations

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CPW concludes lethal removal efforts for uncollared wolf in Grand County

Luke Perkins | Colorado Parks and Wildlife | Aug. 5, 2026

DENVER – On August 4, 2026, CPW and its agents lethally removed an uncollared male yearling wolf in Grand County. The wolf was a member of the One Ear Pack.

This management action was taken in response to four confirmed depredation events involving four calves in total. The first depredation event was confirmed on June 29 in Jackson County and consecutive events confirmed on July 26, July 31 and August 1, 2026 in Grand County. These events occurred despite the producers pursuing non-lethal conflict minimization efforts.

"The decision to lethally remove a wolf is a very difficult one and a number of factors must be taken into consideration," said CPW Director Laura Clellan. "Unfortunately after a thorough review, the determination of chronic depredation was made in this case. Our staff will continue to work diligently with willing producers to deploy all reasonable non-lethal tools and methods in order to minimize the need for removals."

Conflict minimization efforts pursued by producers impacted included:

- Conducting of a site assessment to identify viable, reasonable, and effective tools and techniques for their operations
- Deployment of range riders
- Use of scare devices
- Active human presence
- Applying for injurious non-lethal hazing permits

"I want to emphasize CPW's commitment to recovering and maintaining a viable, self-sustaining wolf population in Colorado, while concurrently working to minimize wolf-related conflicts with domestic animals, with non-lethal means as our priority," said Clellan.

A final report on the lethal removal efforts will be posted to the CPW website when complete.



Photo Credit: Darren Bennett (iStock).

CPW's decision to lethally remove the uncollared wolf was made in consultation with USFWS and in accordance with applicable legal requirements, including the USFWS 10(j) rule.



Never Let the Spirit Die.
ColoradoWildNews

We too shall pass. How will the earth remember us? What will be our legacy? Will we be remembered as stewards of the earth’s beauty or destroyers of the intricate relationships that are the very fabric of life? Will we choose to nurture and protect each flower and bird, each elk and wolf, each beaver and trout, so that now and future generations of life, both human and wild, thrive in its beauty?

Will we honor our constitutional democracy – which protects the rights of all, those born and those yet to come? Will we honor the rights of nature – the right of a river to flow free to the ocean...the right of a wolf to find a mate and raise a family without fear of human persecution.

Female wolf 2504, who had been brought to Colorado from British Columbia, was walking across a snow-covered field in Rio Blanco County in early January 2026, when she was shot and killed by a coyote-hunter. 2405’s identity was hard to mistake – she was collared.

Whether she was out looking for a mate – wolves do not like to be alone and desperately seek to have a family – or just hunting for the food she needed to survive winter, her life was ended by the brutal act of someone killing for sport. The killer claims he thought she was a coyote, as if that would justify the brutality. He wasn’t hunting for food – you don’t eat coyote – this was pure and simple, killing for sport.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife fined the shooter \$139.50 for killing her – an endangered species whose life was invaluable unto itself and far beyond. She brought with her the possibility of restoration, the promise of the return of a natural balance that has been so upset by our human culture of killing, and most importantly she brought her wolf spirit to Colorado.

Not only did Colorado Parks and Wildlife dishonor her life, they disrespected all the Coloradans who voted to restore the natural balance, and they ignored the established science that directs that wolves can restore healthy ecosystems and healthy elk populations – but only if they’re protected. Indeed, wolves are legally protected in Colorado by both federal and state Endangered Species Act listing – according to the law, killing an endangered species carries a fine from \$2,000.00 to \$100,000.00. Why then a fine of \$139.50 for killing an endangered species? Compare this with the fine for illegally killing an elk in Colorado which is at least \$1,000.

CPW’s decision to give the killer a “slap on the wrist” devalues the lives of wolves, sending a loud message to all wolf-haters that killing a wolf doesn’t matter.

Together we can make a difference for wolves and all wildlife. Contact CPW’s Director and Commissioners at: laura.clellan@state.co.us, dnr_cpwcommission@state.co.us.

Tell CPW that her death, and your voice matter. To prevent anyone from again making the mistake of thinking they can kill a wolf, claim they thought it was a coyote, and get off free, tell CPW to make the punishment fit the crime. Tell them to let hunters and ranchers know that CPW values wolves.

For Wolves and the Wild! D



Trump secretly sends thousands of horses to their deaths: 'Slaughter in plain sight'

Kathleen Culliton | Raw Story | August 21, 2026



Wild horses on the Kruzi plateau near Livno, Bosnia and Herzegovina, gather to drink water brought by residents as prolonged drought and high temperatures have dried up natural watering holes, August 13, 2026. REUTERS/Amel Emric

Wild horses couldn't keep President Donald Trump away from the chance of making a kill, according to a new report.

Under his administration, thousands of wild horses have been rounded up with helicopters, packed into metal trailers, trucked hundreds of miles, and sold off to be slaughtered, the New York Times reported Thursday.

“The [Bureau of Land Management] is saying to the public that slaughter is off the table, but they’re doing it in plain sight,” Clare Staples, who runs a wild horse sanctuary, told the Times. “They are turning a blind eye. And the only ones getting punished for what is going on are the horses.”

The Bureau of Land Management has been quietly exploiting a legal loophole that bans the slaughtering of wild horses by selling them cheaply to third parties to be sold abroad and slain, according to the Times' analysis of government records.

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After Trump took office, the bureau more than doubled its sales to more than 3,700 horses, according to the report.

The mustangs are sold at a huge loss, as the government

can spend \$3,000 to capture a mustang it will sell for as little as \$25 — meanwhile, the buyer can make up to \$750 per horse at a slaughter plant.

The bureau makes the investment as part of its effort to maintain sustainability for the 73,000 wild horses that roam protected public lands.

It collects about 9,500 horses every year, putting half up for adoption and the rest into a “holding system” that now stores 58,000 wild horses at an annual cost of \$100 million, according to the report.

The bureau has pitched buying a gas chamber to kill the horses and cut the costs, but Congress has barred such action over fears of an outcry, according to the Times.

But Trump has long been pushing for the horses to be killed — calling for Congress to act in Project 2025, the policy paper put forth by the Heritage Foundation.

The bureau responded to the Times' request for more information with a comment.

“[The BLM] remains dedicated to placing animals into good homes,” they said, “protecting their welfare and upholding its statutory responsibilities on behalf of the American public.”



Colorado Wildlife in August

↶ Coyotes at Chatfield State Park. → Photos taken in southwest
↓ Bear Spotted around Littleton, CO - eastern
Roxborough State Park. foothills of the Colorado.



In Germany, select supermarkets have introduced a thoughtful innovation for dog owners: pet parking pads.

These are modern, temperature-controlled and ventilated kennels installed near store entrances, allowing dogs to rest safely and comfortably while their owners shop inside. Developed by companies like DogSpot, the pods are designed to be secure, hygienic, and low-stress for pets. Owners can lock and unlock them conveniently via a smartphone app or a store-issued code.

The system helps prevent common risks such as dogs being tied up outside in bad weather or left in hot cars. The kennels maintain a pleasant climate year-round and feature transparent panels so dogs can see their surroundings, helping to reduce anxiety.

Massimo on X | @Rainmaker1973 | Posted on Aug 21, 2026



Mexico has officially banned the use of marine mammals in commercial entertainment, amending its General Wildlife Law to outlaw dolphinariums, public shows, and "swim-with-dolphins" programs.

Earth on X | @Earthcurated | Posted on Aug 8, 2026



Red Wolf Specialty License Plate Initiative



HELP US SECURE A RED WOLF SPECIALTY PLATE TO FUND
RECOVERY IN NORTH CAROLINA

Our Goal & Your Impact

- **300-500 NC residents signed up** with fees paid by February 14, 2027!
- Proceeds will go to **Red Wolf recovery** for front line work such as coexistence efforts, field supplies, acclimation pens, educational outreach, and more!

Show Your Interest

- **Scan** the QR code to fill out our interest form!
- Check "yes" to **sign up** for campaign newsletters!
- **Follow along** for updates on new campaign roll-outs that include how you can get involved, license plate artwork unveiling, outreach efforts, and more!

SHARE SHARE SHARE!

- **Share** with your North Carolina community!
- **Learn more** about Red Wolf recovery by visiting www.fws.gov/project/red-wolf-recovery-program

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE!



SUPPORTING ENDANGERED RED WOLVES AND
THEIR FUTURE IN NORTH CAROLINA
WWW.REDWOLVES.COM

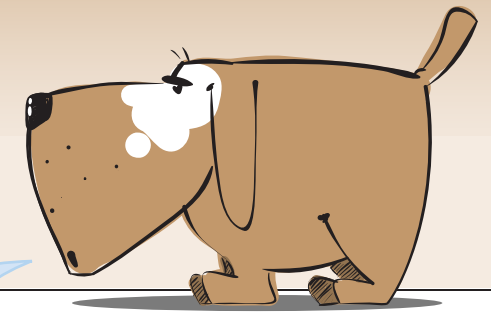
Adoption corner

TCRAS

Teller County Regional Animal Shelter
tcrascolorado.org · 719.686.7707

SLVAWS

San Luis Valley Animal Welfare Society
slvaws.org · 719.587.woof (9663)



[NOTE - Our shelter is still open for adoptions, but we are asking that you call ahead and make an appointment before coming in to the shelter - 719-686-7707.]

QUINN »

Hello friends! I'm Quinn! I'm about 35lbs of quiet friend! I need a little time to open up and feel comfortable with my family so I'd prefer if we could meet in my safe space a few times before I go home with you! I'd want to meet any future canine siblings as well to make sure we get along. I'm a very affectionate little bundle, and once I know I'm safe with you, my tail doesn't stop wagging, and I'll try really hard to get into your lap!



« KUNOICHI

Hi, I'm Kunoichi! Unfortunately in all my time in foster I have not really warmed up to anyone. The shelter staff thinks I would do best as a barn cat. I'm looking for someone that will give me my space but provide me with a safe space to reside when I am not out hunting. As I will need a good acclimation process, I am looking for someone that has some experience dealing with barn cats or is open to learning about the process.

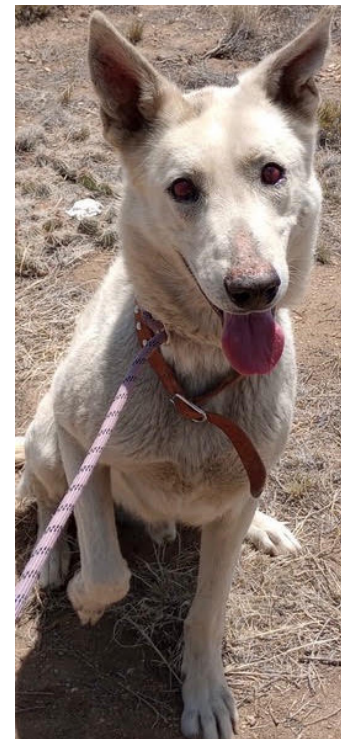
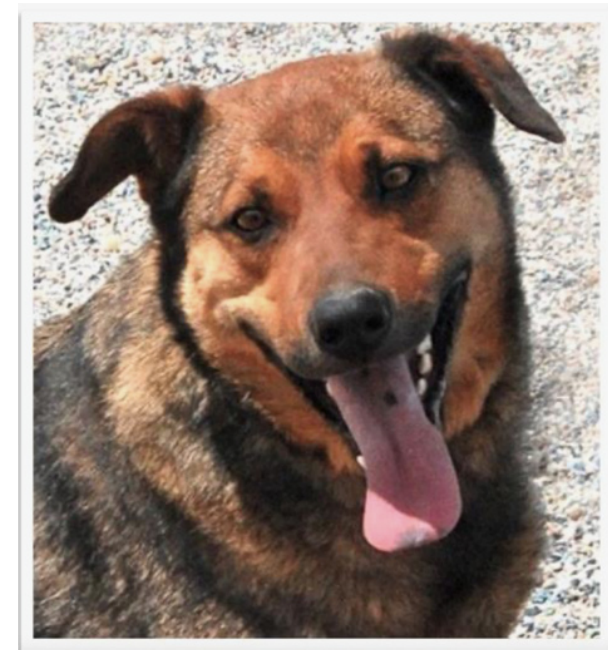


SLVAWS

Every Saturday 10am-4pm adoption fairs in Colorado Springs. Please check our website www.slvaws.org for our next Saturday location.

SCRAPPY »

Lovable brindle mix about 3 years old. His best friend was adopted and now he is alone. Loves people. Neutered, all vacc's, chipped. He is one of our volunteer's favorites. 60 lbs.



« DUSTY

Dusty was left in the hot sun without shade for many days. He was almost blind from pannus. As you can see, he is alternating feet to keep them from burning. He is on eye medication and his eyes now are perfectly clear. Very smart, lovable and sweet. 1 1/2 years old, neutered, all vacc's, chipped. About 70 lbs.