

MISSION:

To use science-based information to promote an ecologically-functional wolf population within areas of suitable habitat and promote human coexistence with emphasis on Michigan and Wisconsin.

TIMBER WOLF ALLIANCE

SIGURD OLSON ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTE

NORTHLAND COLLEGE





Wolves in Michigan

PRESENTED BY THE TIMBER WOLF ALLIANCE

Common Myths

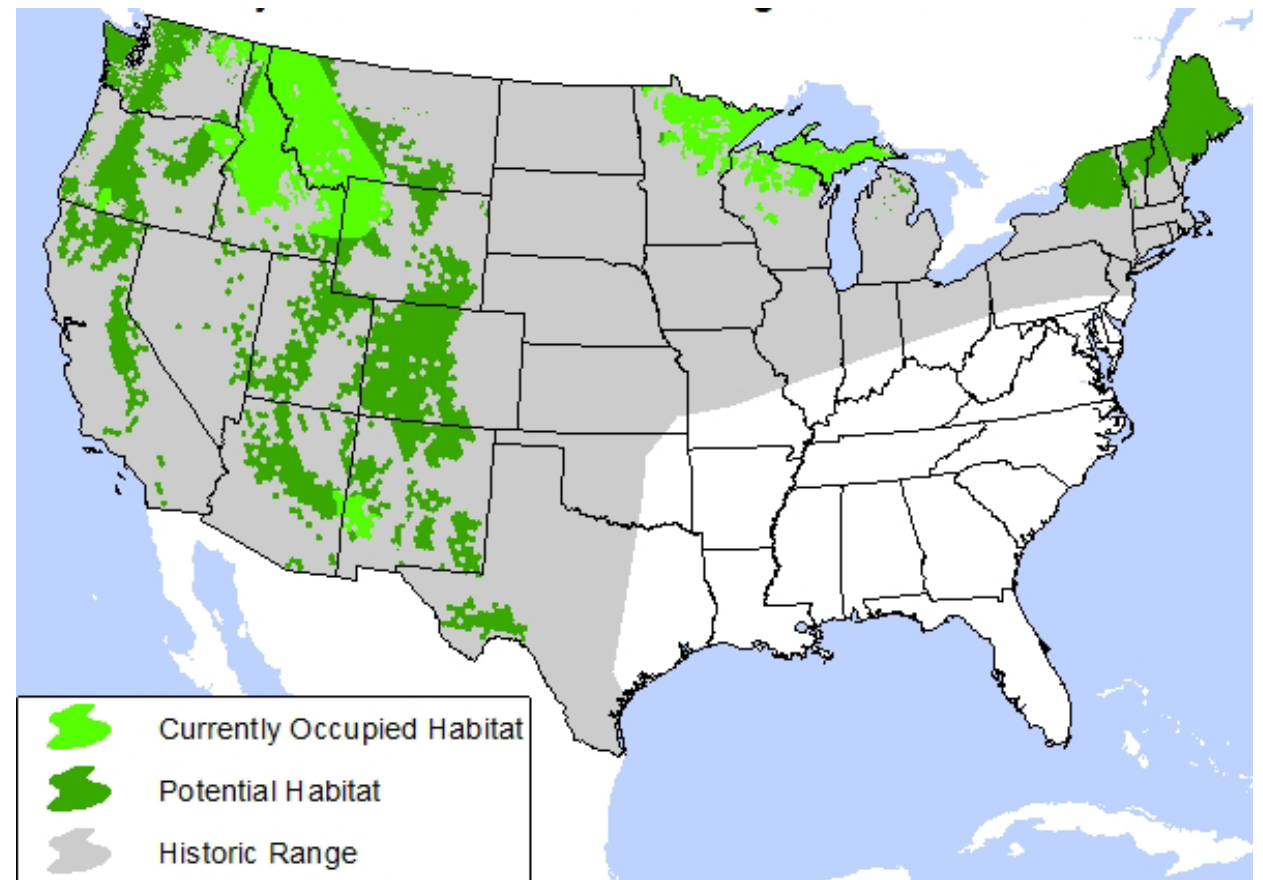
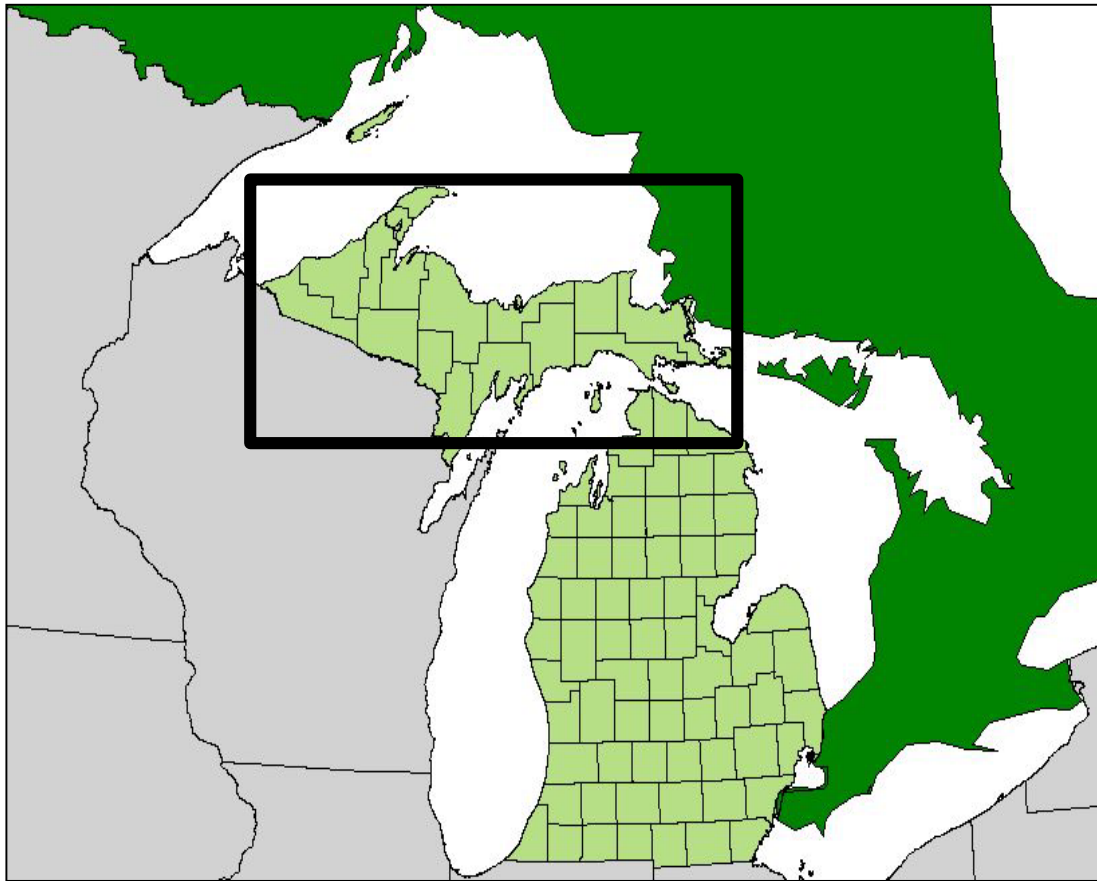
1. Wolves are Dangerous to People
2. Wolves Were Reintroduced to Wisconsin & Michigan
3. Wolves will Devastate the Deer Herd
4. Wolves are a Major Risk to Livestock Industry
5. It is not Safe to Walk Dogs in Areas Occupied by Wolves



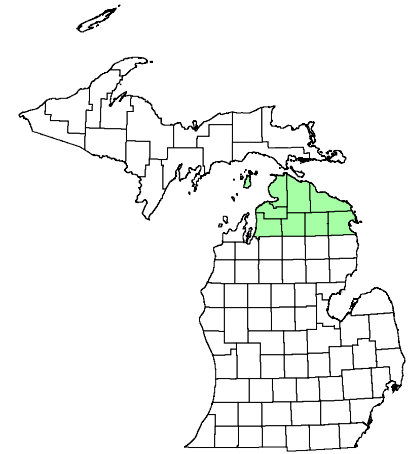
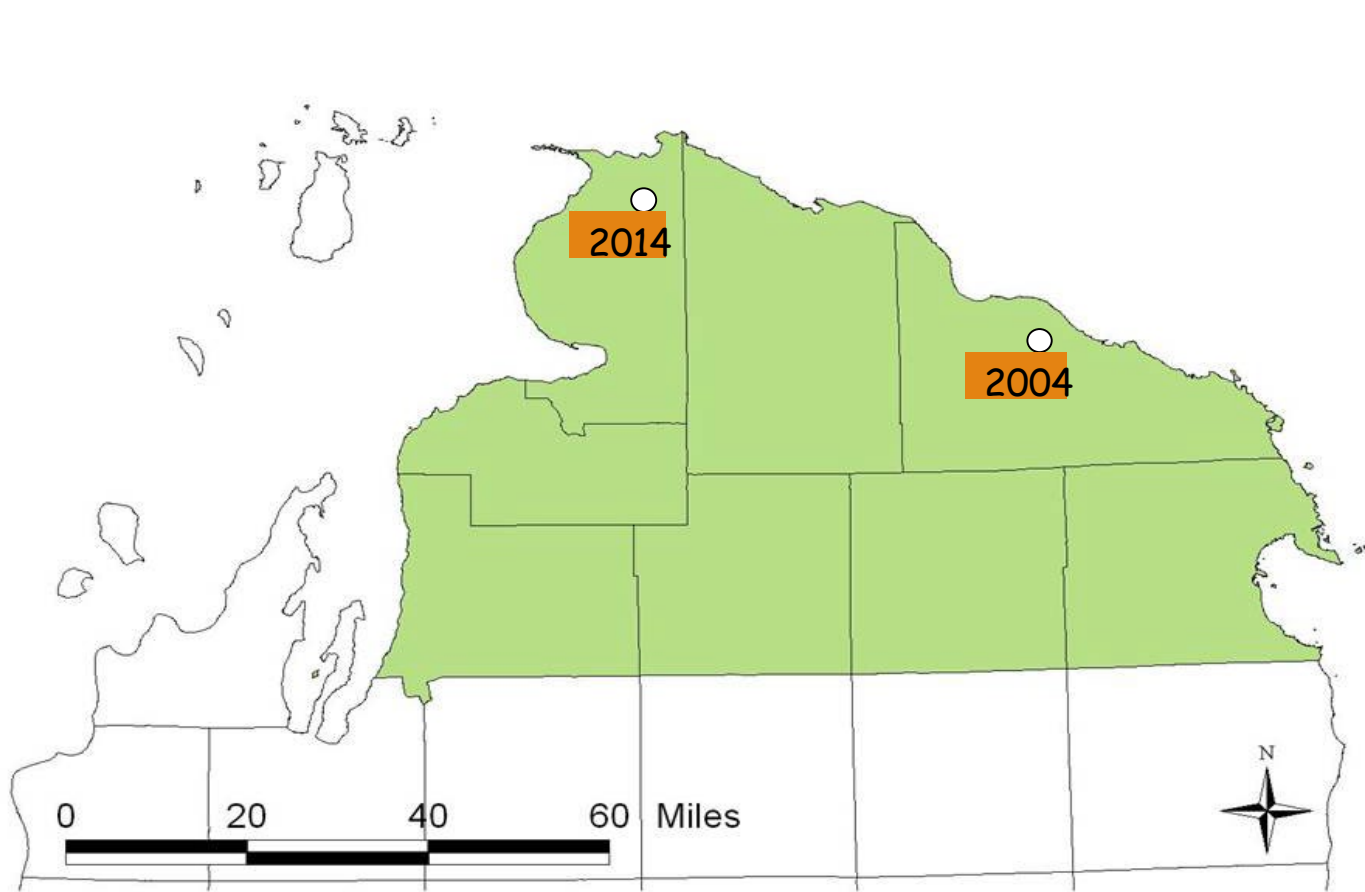
Grey Wolf



Grey Wolf Range



Lower Peninsula Occurrences





Coyotes



How to distinguish?



Height and Weight

Facial Features

Paws

Paws



Dog



Wolf



Wolf



Shown to scale
(not actual size)

Coyote

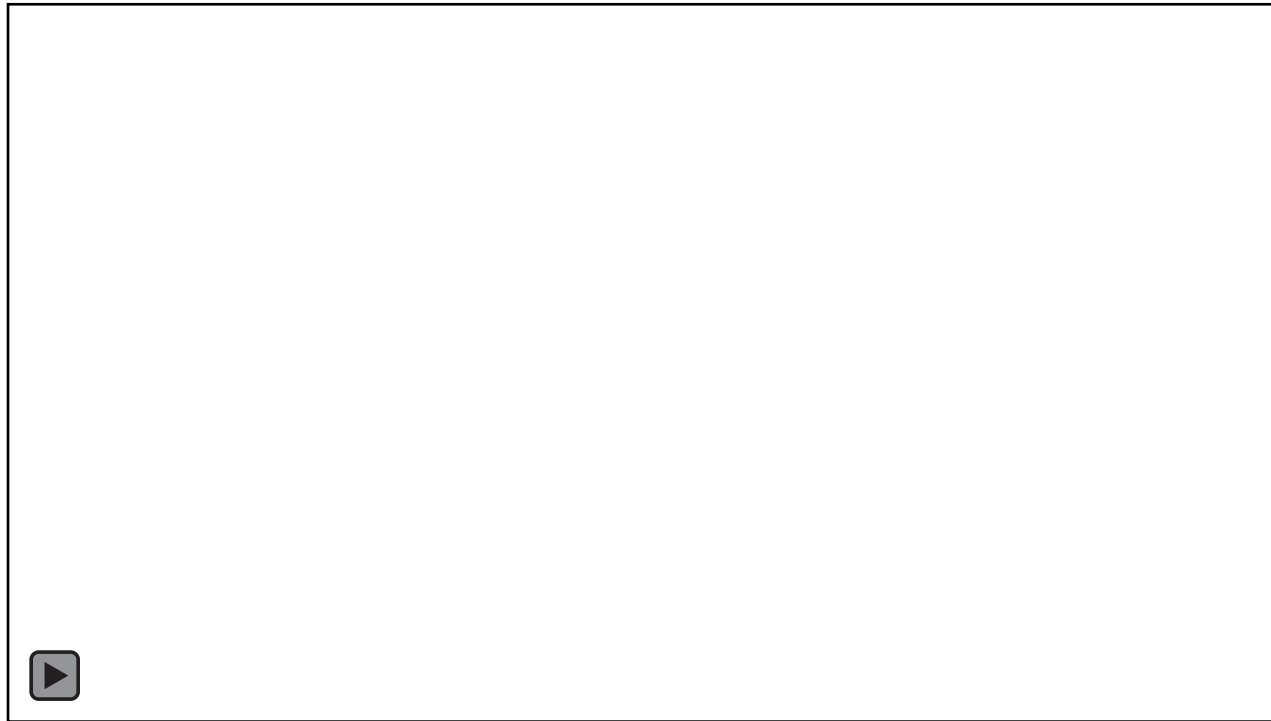
Pack Structure & Territory

- 🐾 Wolves have very large territories, averaging 100 mi² in the Upper Peninsula
- 🐾 Breeding Pair
- 🐾 Pups, yearlings, 2+ year old adults
- 🐾 Family structure

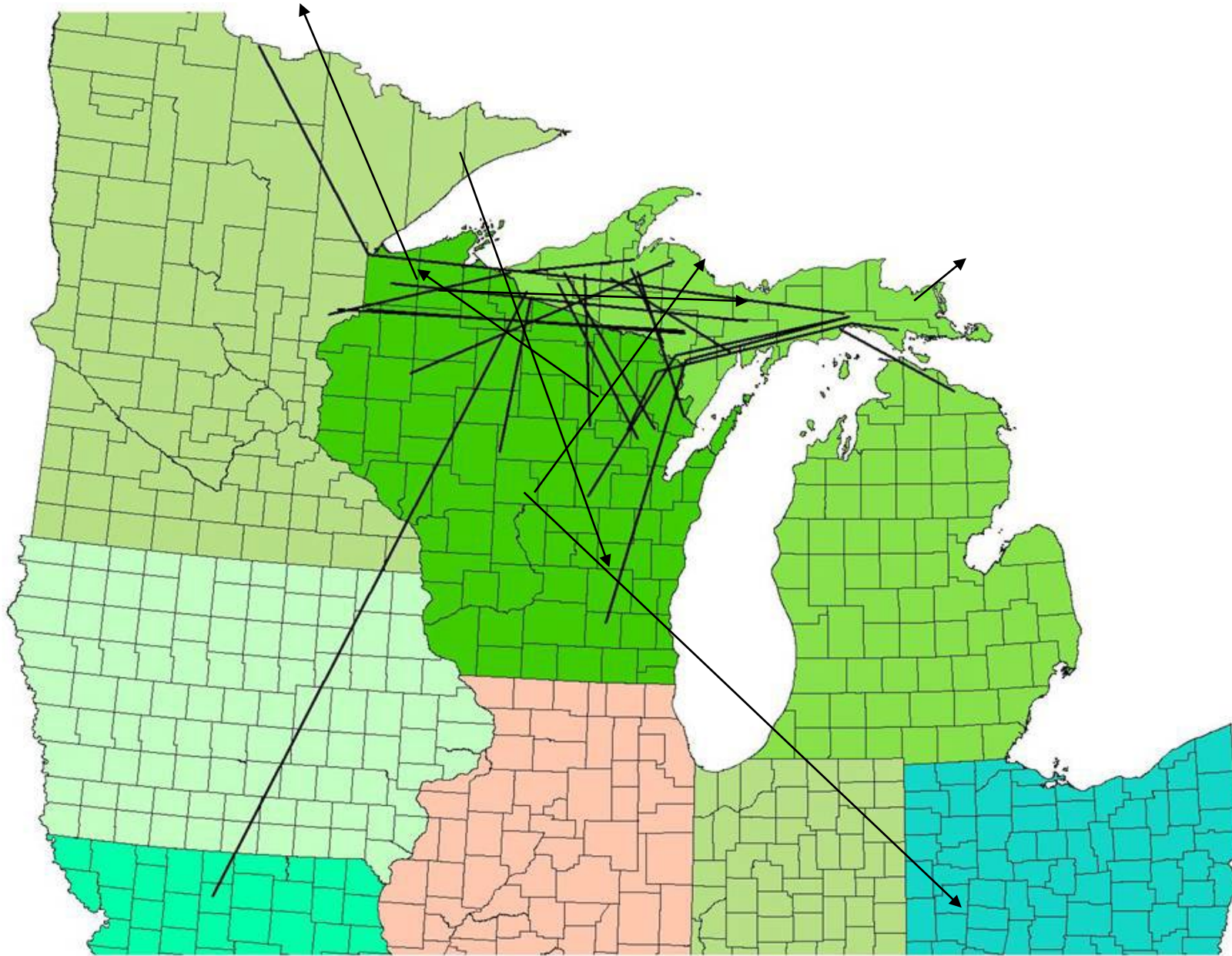




Communication



- 🐾 Defending the Territory
 - 🐾 Scent Marking
 - 🐾 Howling
 - 🐾 Barking
 - 🐾 Attack trespassers

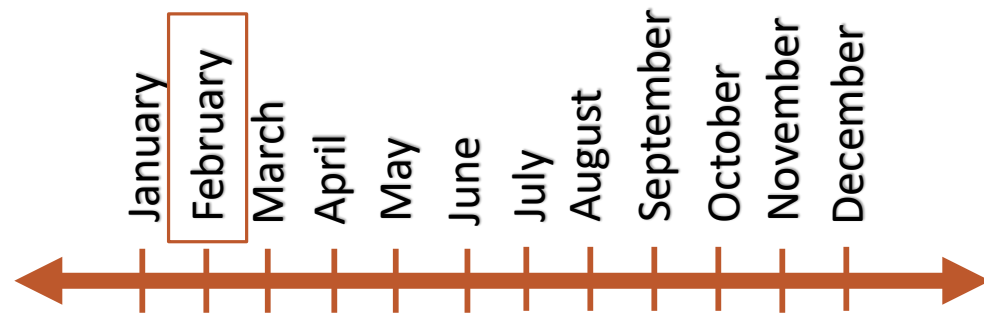


Long Distance
Dispersal from
Wisconsin
And Michigan



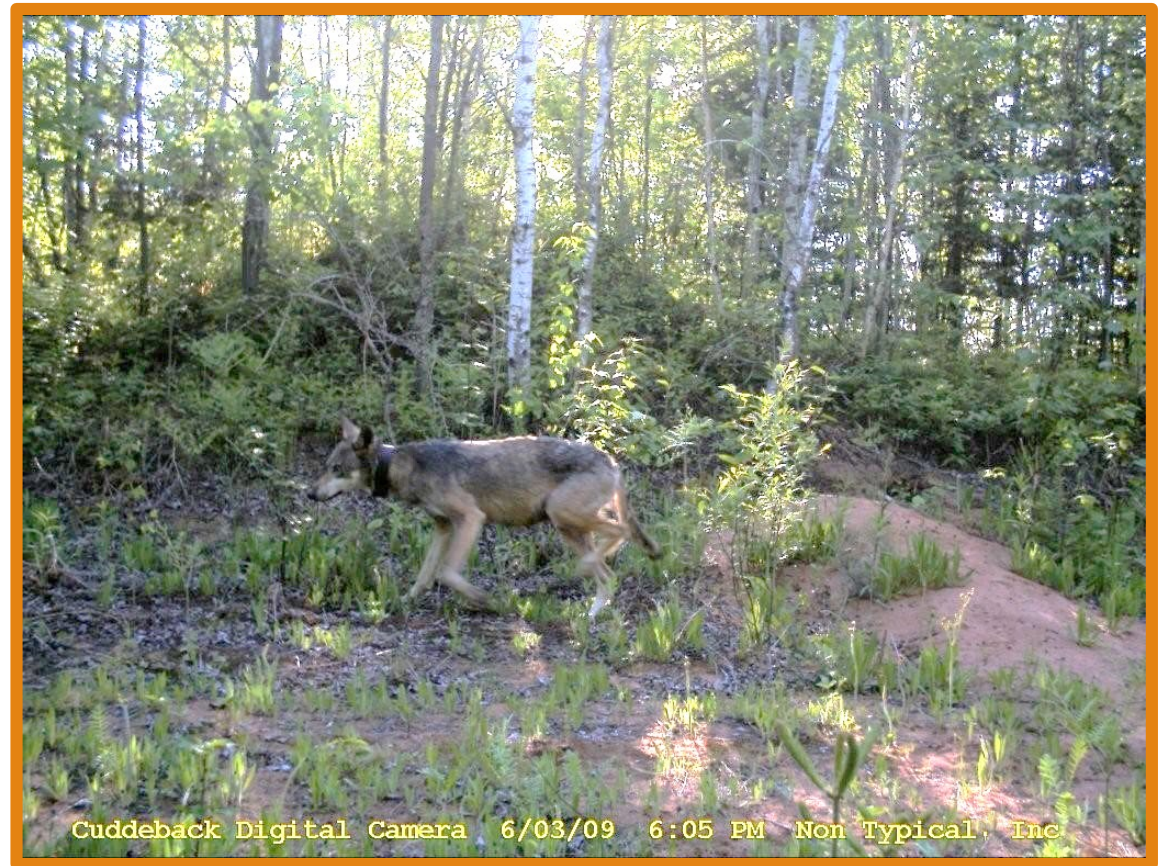
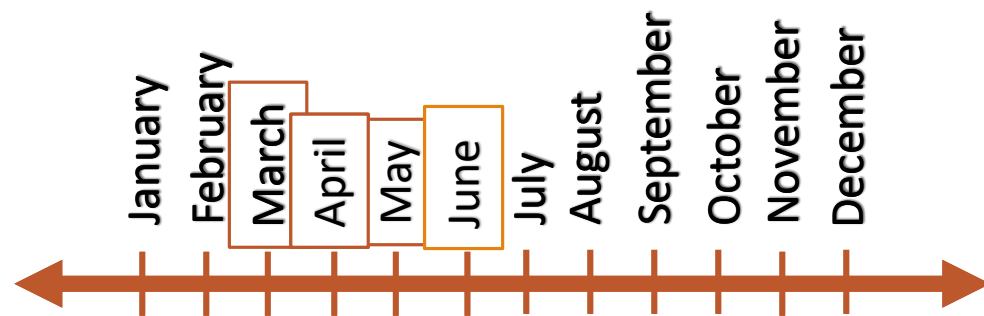
A Year in the Life of a Wolf Pack

Breeding



A Year in the Life of a Wolf Pack

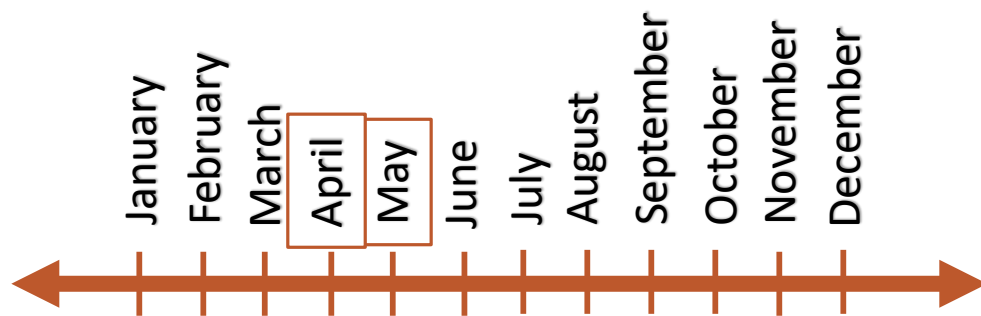
Preparing the Den





A Year in the Life of a Wolf Pack

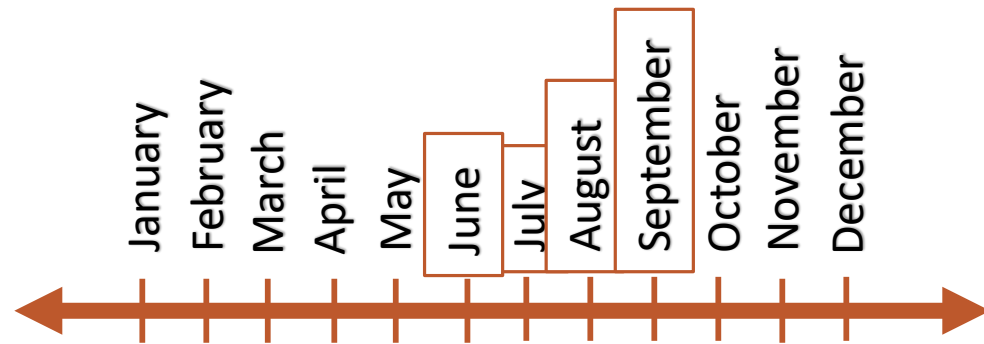
Pups Born & Denning





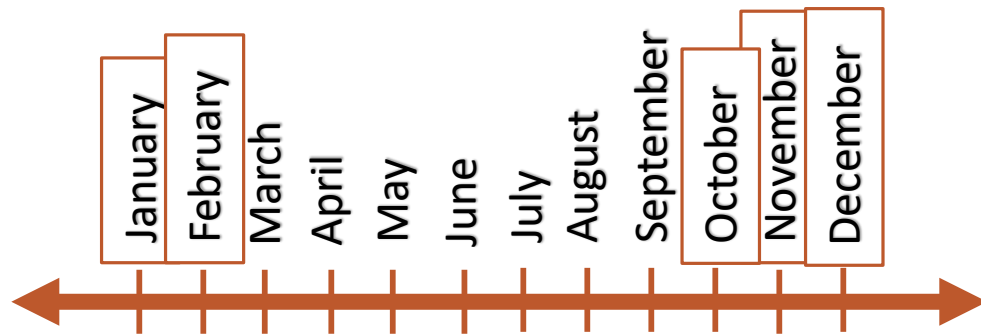
A Year in the Life of a Wolf Pack

Rendezvous Site



A Year in the Life of a Wolf Pack

Nomadic Pack Travel



Life as a Carnivore

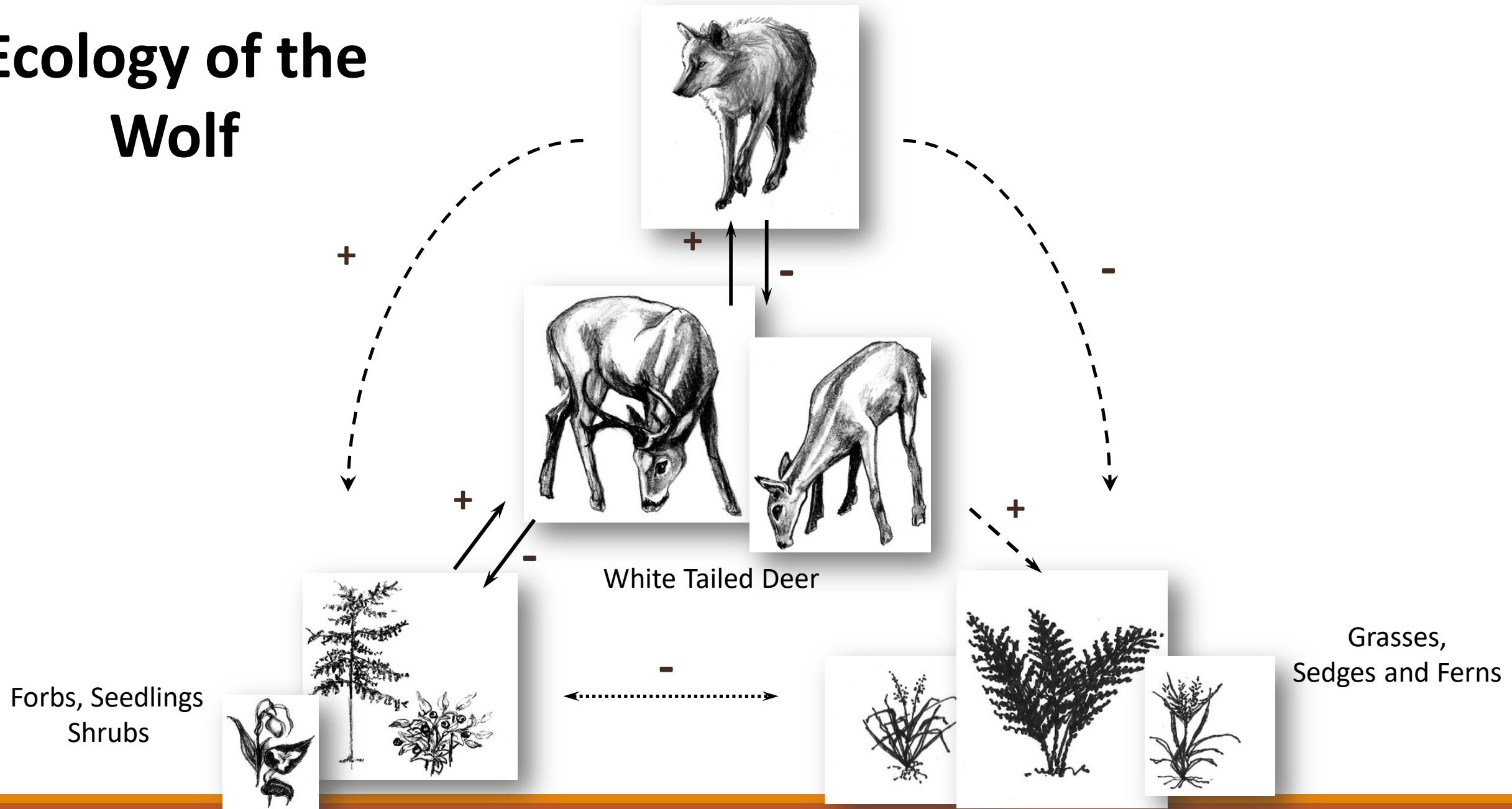
UNGULATES



BEAVER



Ecology of the Wolf



Disappearance and Return of the Grey Wolf

Population Controls

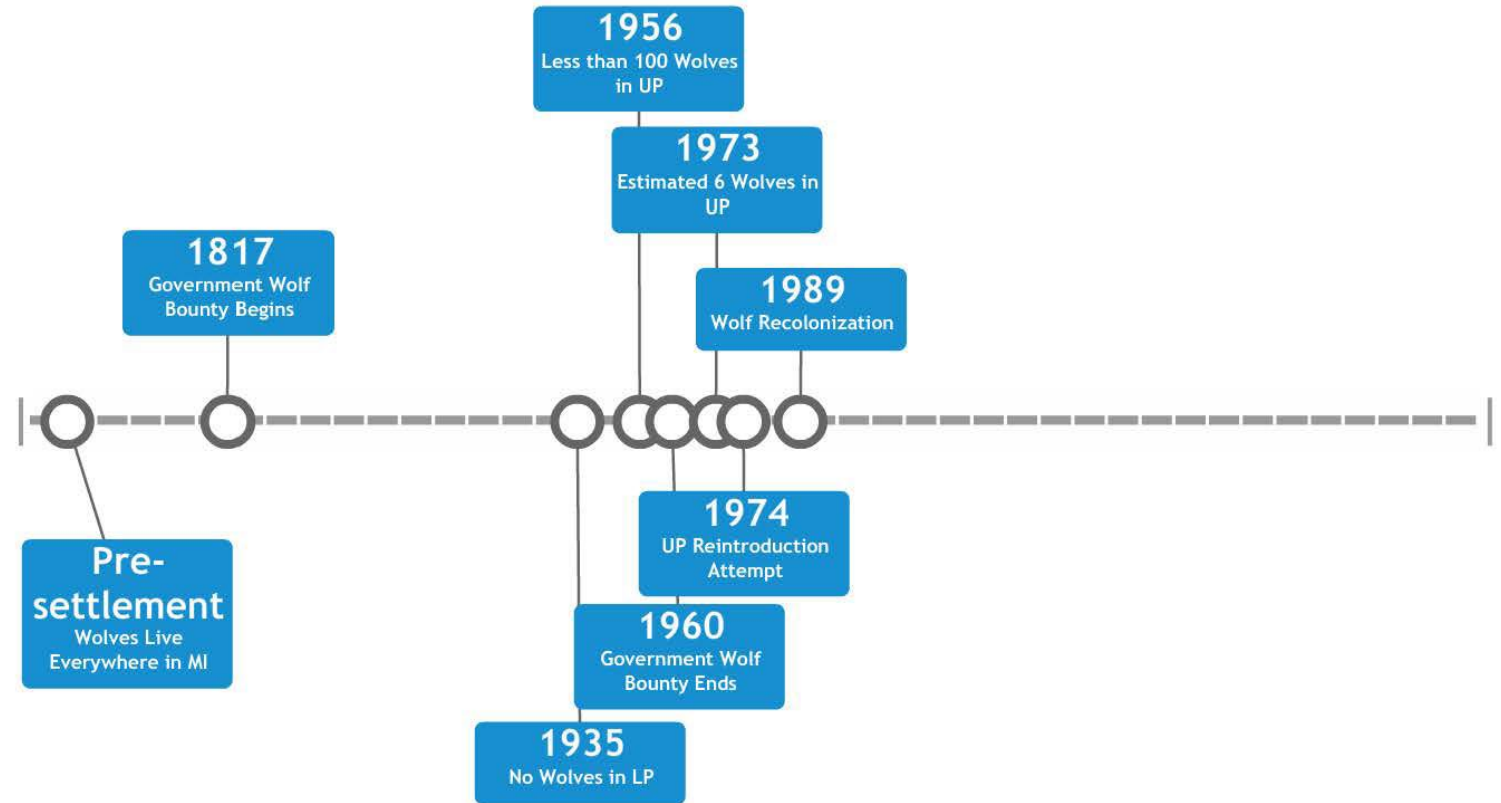
-  Hunting
-  Trapping
-  Poison



— T I M E L I N E —

MI Wolves

By: Angela



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Attempted Wolf Reintroduction 1974

Four Wolves From MN

Released In The Huron Mountains

Within 8 Months All 4

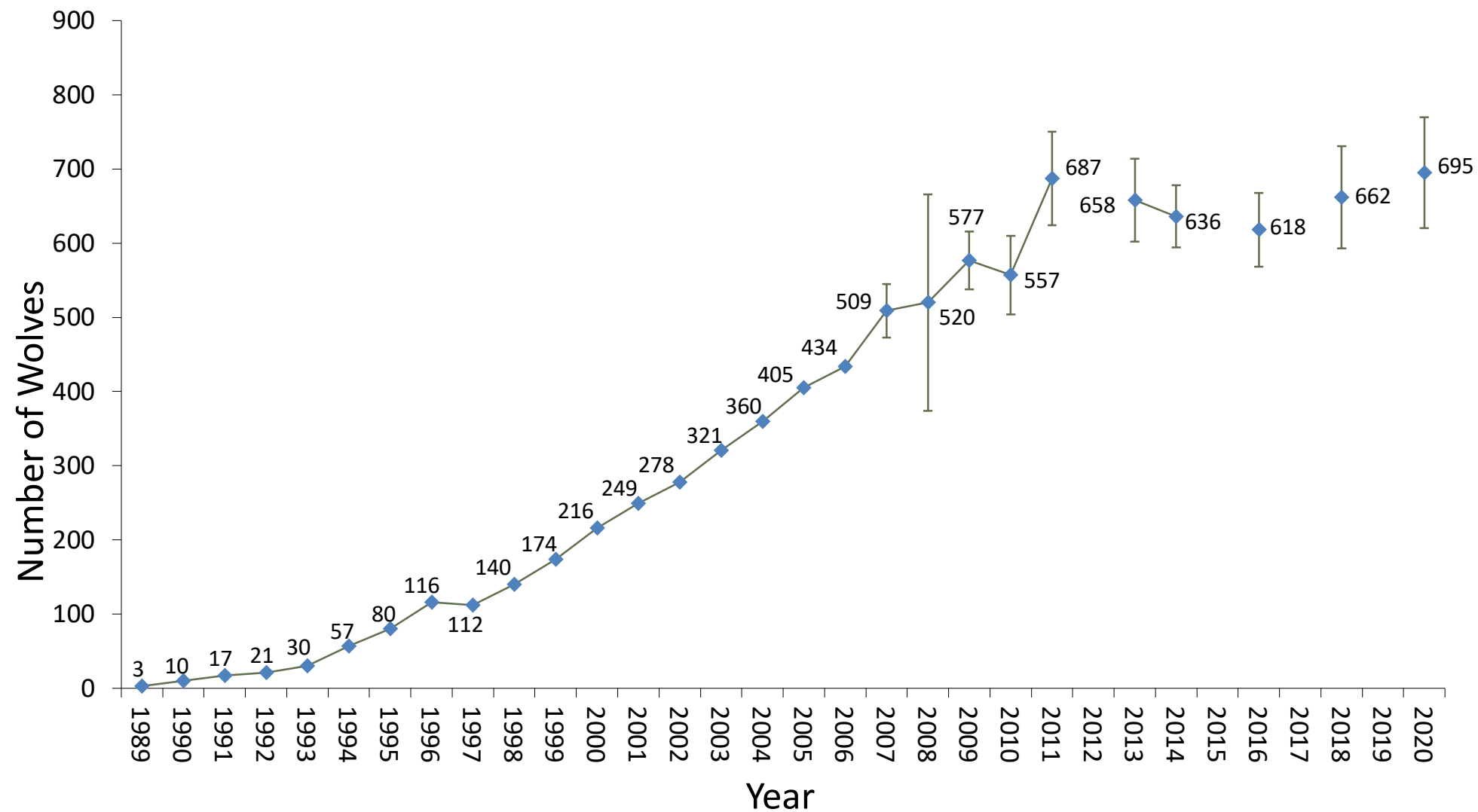
Wolves Were Killed

Wolves Did Not Reproduce





Minimum Late-Winter Estimates of Wolf Abundance in the Upper Peninsula





State and Federal Listing Criteria in MI

Population Status	State Listing	Federal Listing
Endangered to Threatened	200 wolves or > for 1 year	80 wolves or > for 3 yrs
Delisting	200 wolves or > for 5 yrs	100 wolves or > for 5 years with WI



Grey Wolf in the eyes of the State of Michigan

1965	Legal Protected
1976	State Endangered
2002	State Threatened
2009	State Delisted
2012	Designated a 'game species'



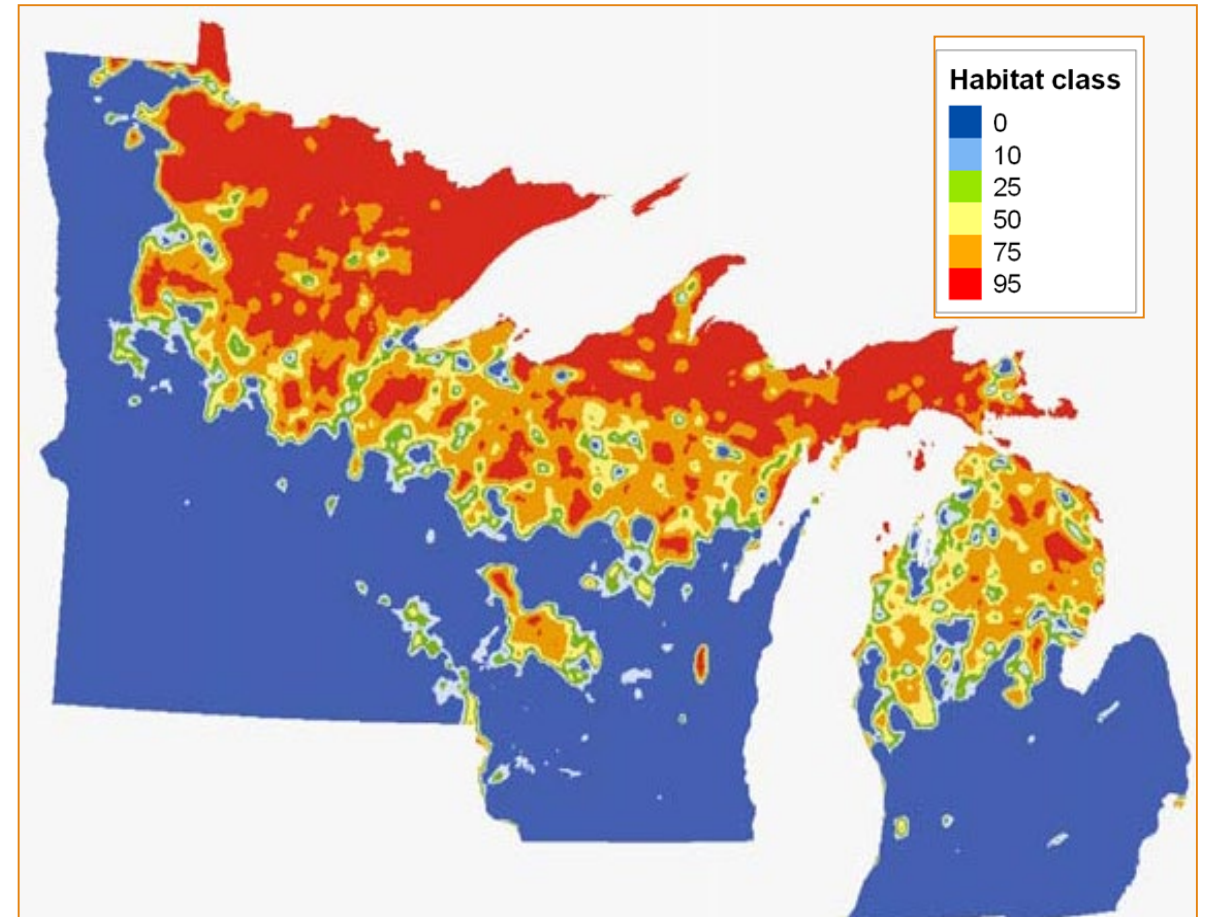
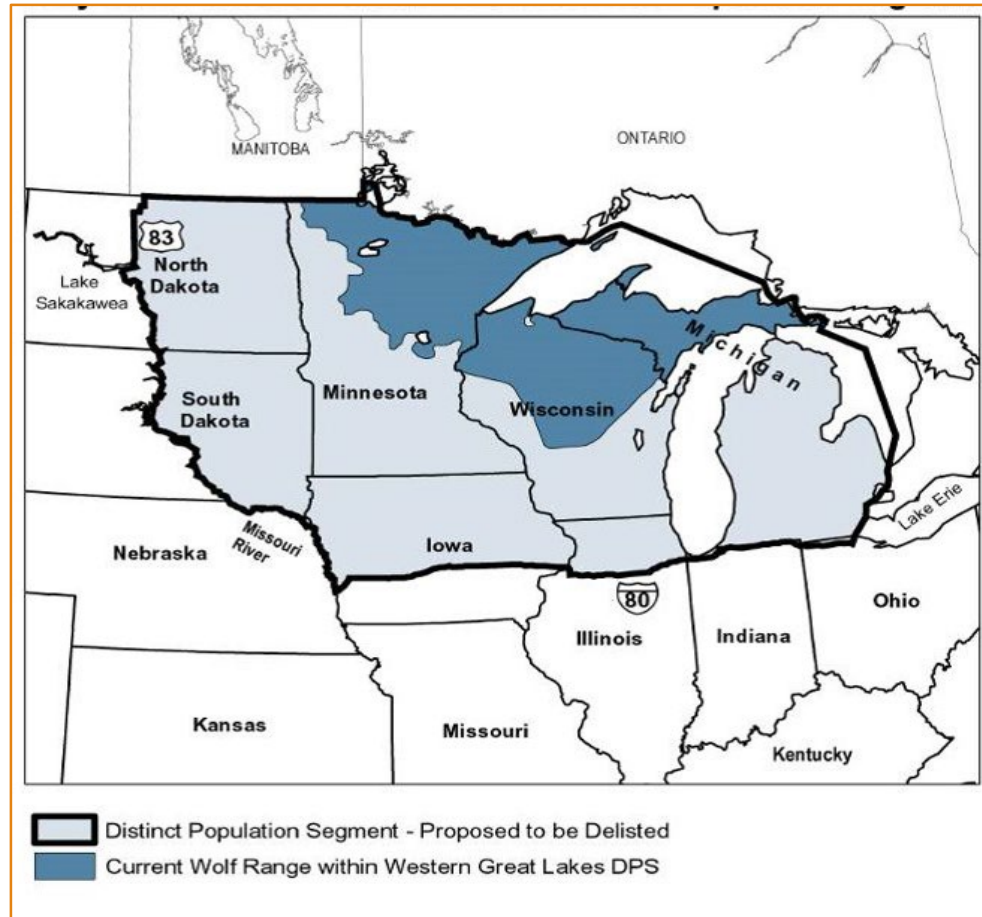
*Federal Law Overrides state listing

Grey wolf in the eyes of the Federal Government



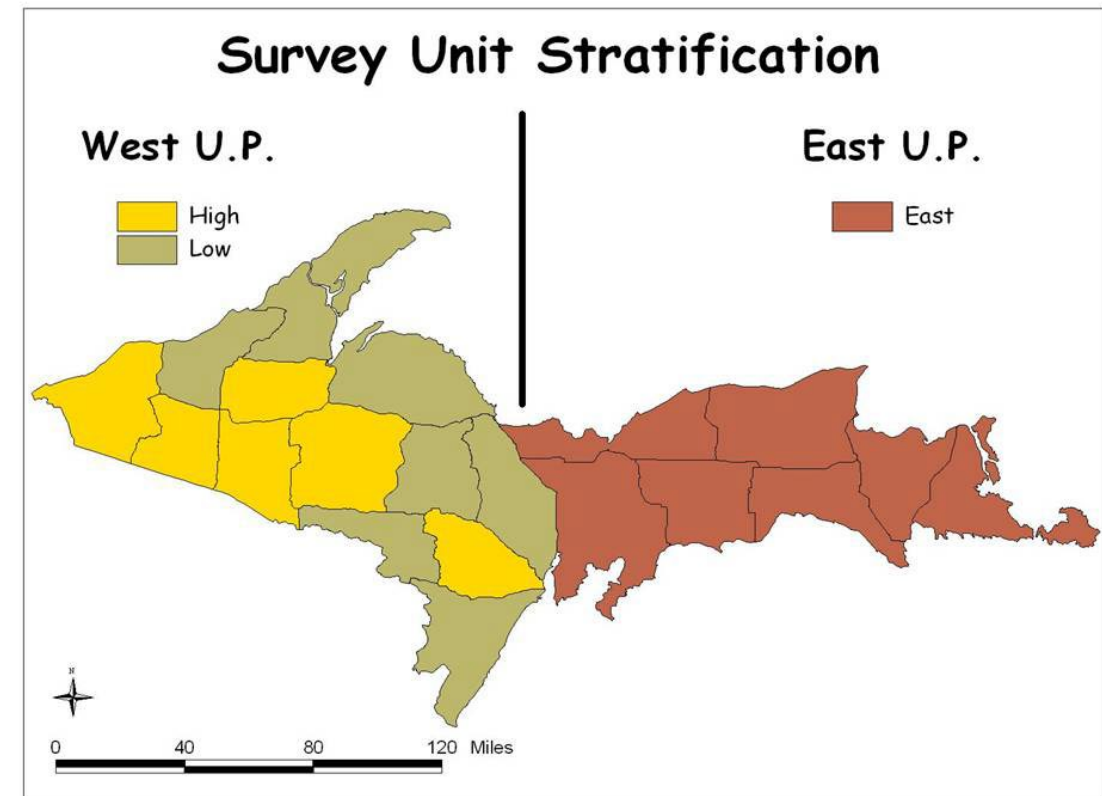
1974- 2003	Endangered
April 13, 2012-Jan. 31, 2005:	Threatened
Mar. 12, 2005- Mar. 12 th , 2007	Endangered
Mar. 12, 2007 – Sept. 29 th , 2008	Delisted
Sept. 29, 2008-May 4, 2009	Endangered
May 4, 2009-July 1, 2009	Delisted
July 1, 2009- Jan. 26, 2012	Endangered
Jan. 27, 2012- Dec. 19, 2014	Delisted
Dec. 19 th , 2014- Jan. 4, 2021	Endangered
Jan. 4, 2021-Present	Delisted

Western Great Lakes Population Segment





Population Monitoring: Snow Track



Population Monitoring: Radio Collaring



GPS Collars

- 🐾 Trapped and collared late spring and early summer
- 🐾 Trap using foot hold traps
- 🐾 Chemically immobilize and monitor vitals while collaring and assessing the animals health

Population Monitoring

Observation Reporting





MI Radio Collar Mortality, Bio-years

Mortality Factors	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total	%
Illegally Killed	6	2	5	6	4	6	2	5	2	1	3	2	6	6	2	58	42
Legally Killed	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	8	6
Vehicle Strike	2	5	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	14	10
Other - Human	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	5	4
Natural-Disease	4	1	0	1	2	2	1	0	1	3	4	0	0	1	1	21	15
Intraspecific Strife	3	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	12	9
Other Natural Causes	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	2
Unknown	1	2	1	0	2	0	3	0	2	3	1	2	0	1	0	18	13
Totals	18	12	9	10	11	10	7	6	9	9	13	5	6	11	3	139	100

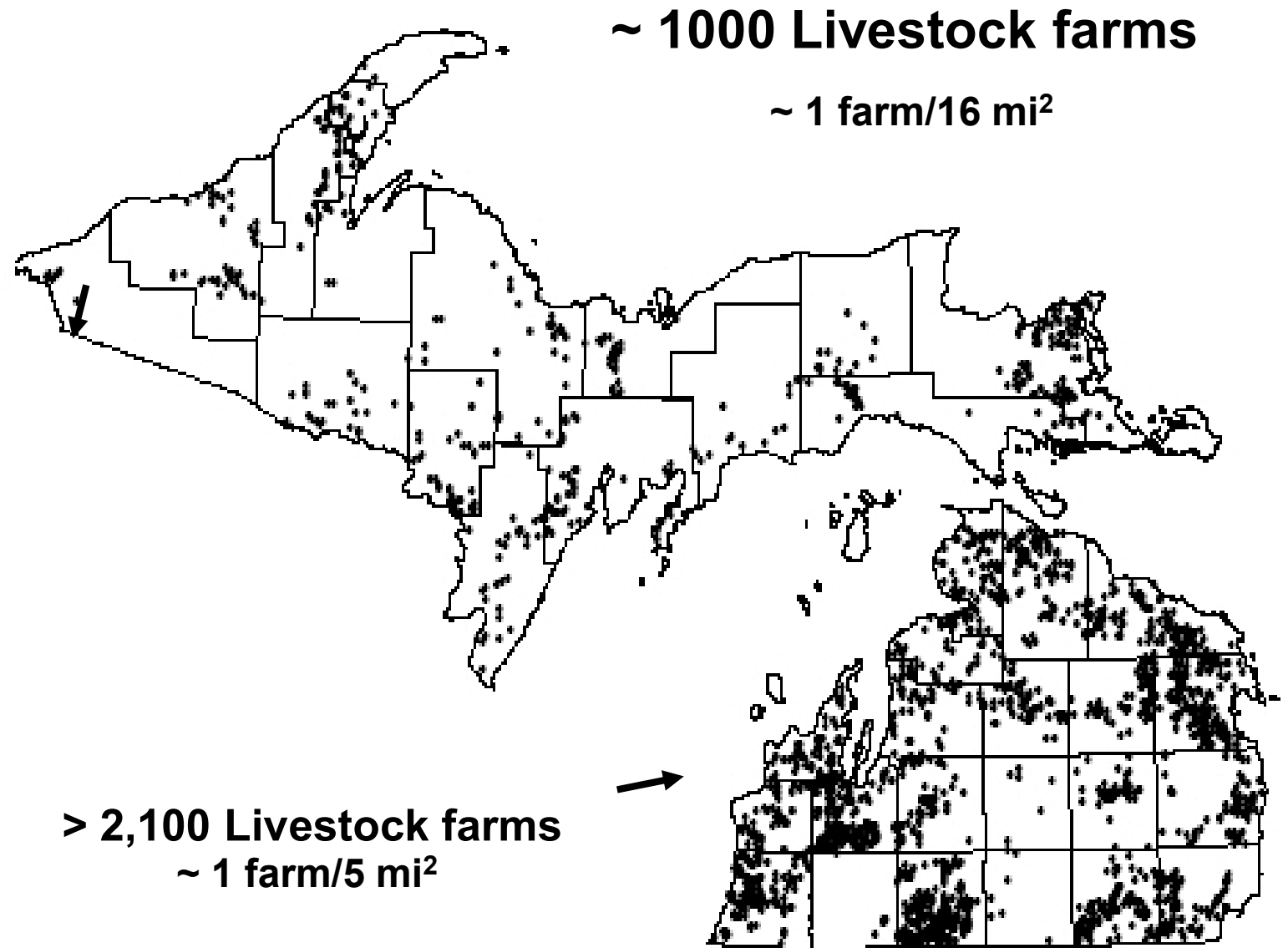
61% Human Caused Mortality



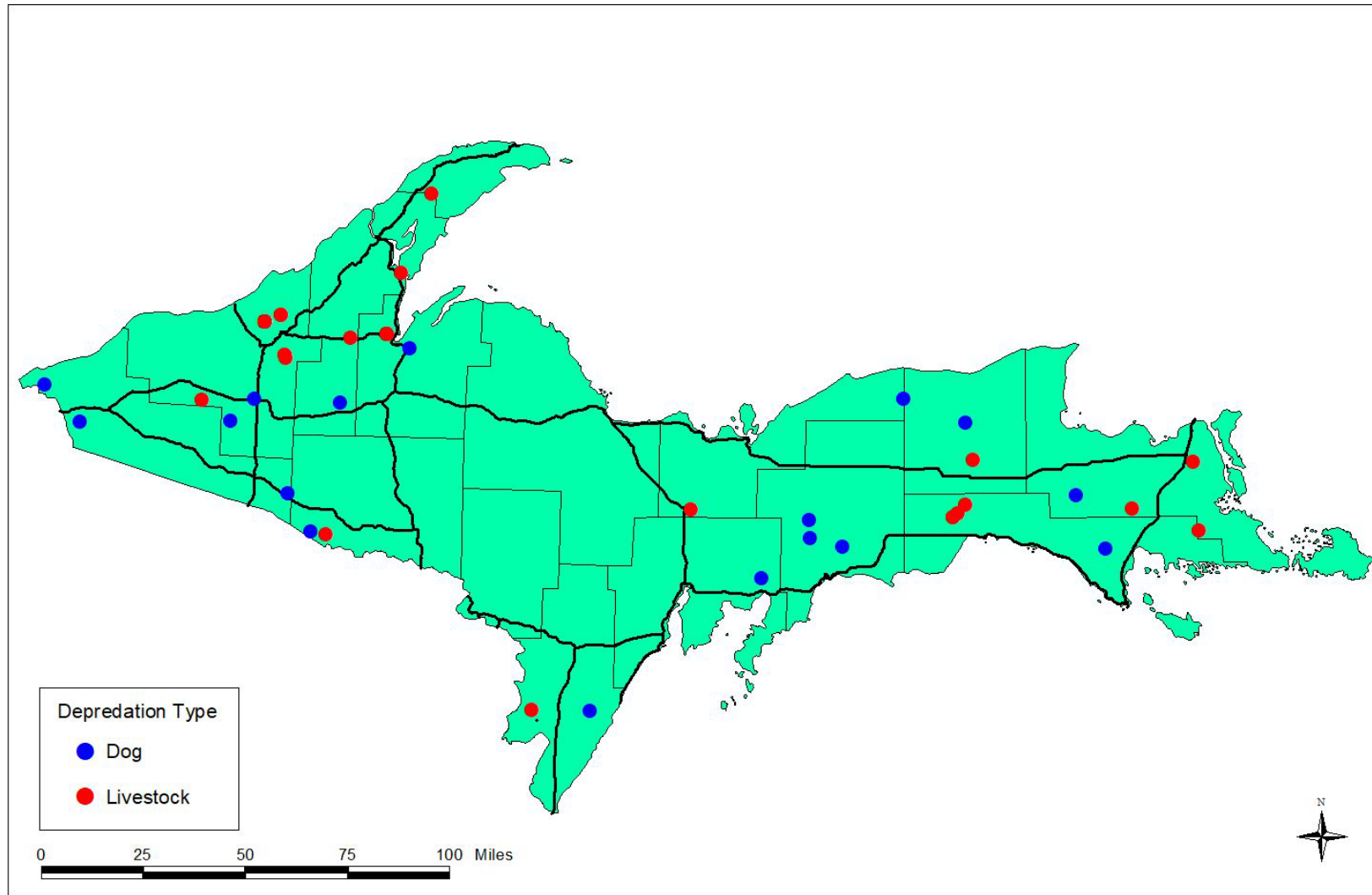
People who care about wolves in the Great Lakes



Wolf Habitat Farm Density

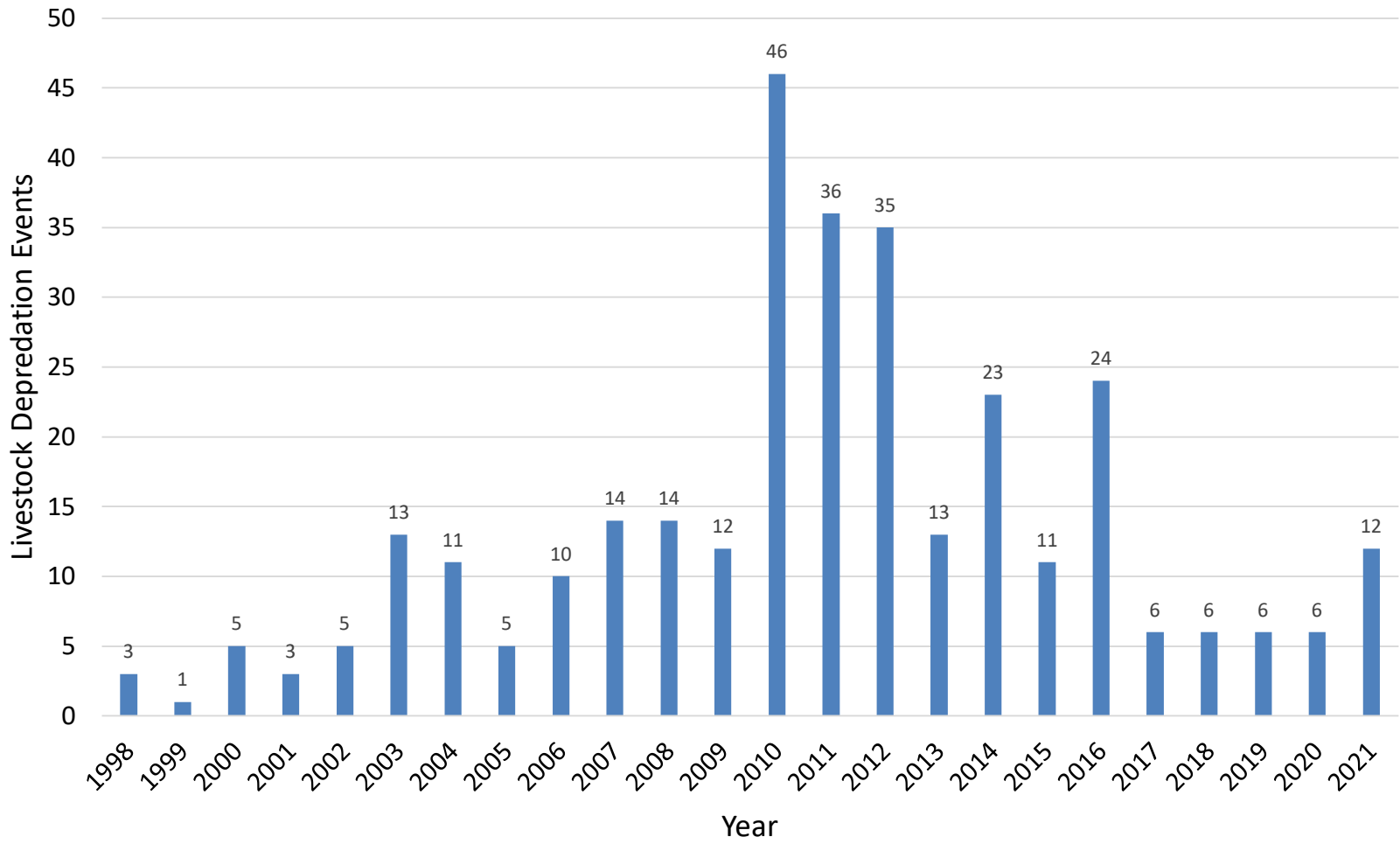


Verified Dog and Livestock Depredation Events 2017-2021





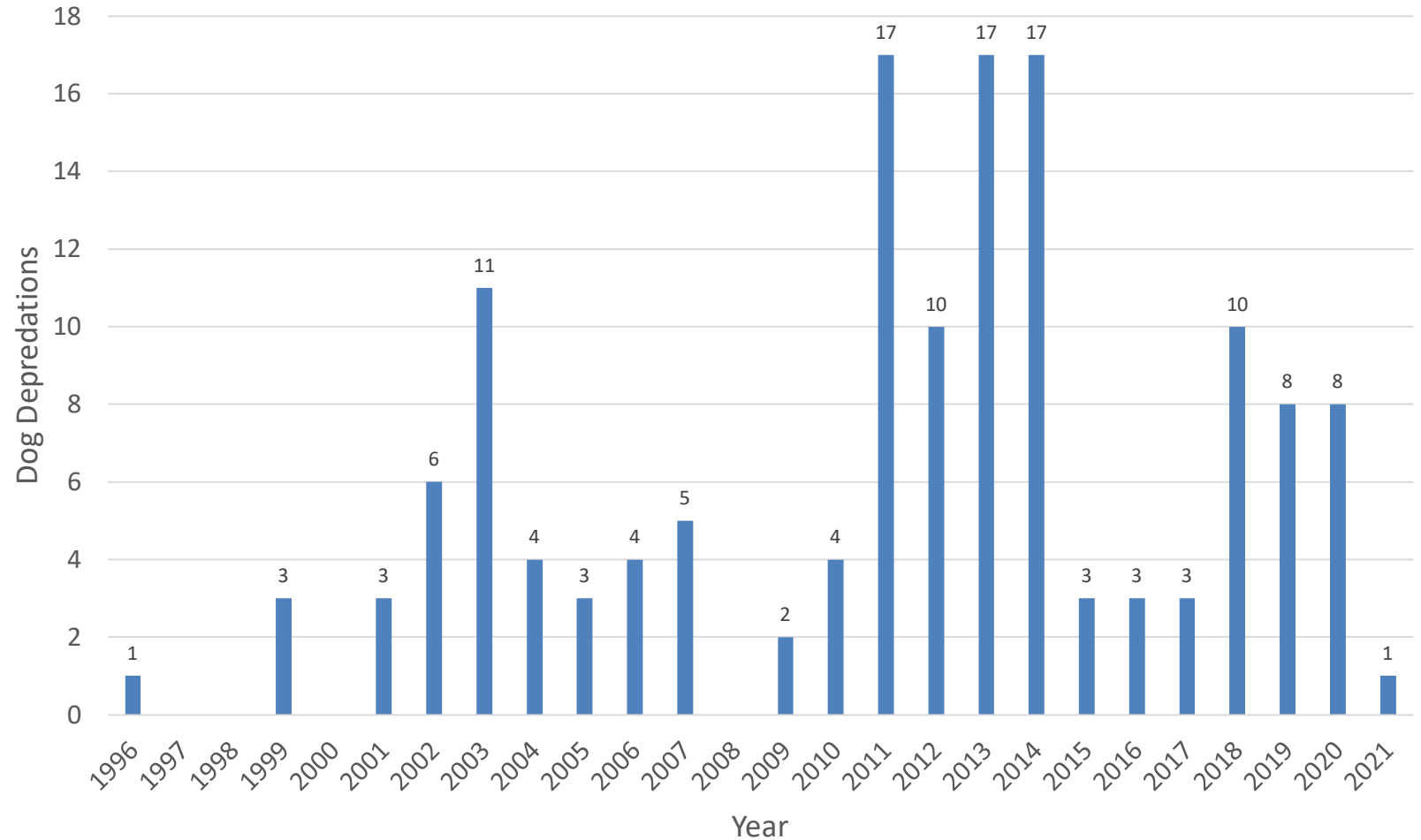
Livestock Depredations Events*



*Events may include multiple depredations

Dog Depredations

- 102 dogs killed; 41 injured (143 Total)
- 77% of the dogs killed (79) involved hounds (bear / rabbit, bobcat)
- No compensation
- Management options focus on prevention



Lethal Control



Preventative Non-Lethal Controls of Wolves



Michigan's Wolf Livestock demonstration Project Grant Program



This grant has provided funding to 31 farms, which allowed for the placement of 31 donkeys and 19 fencing projects



Some tips for living with wolves

- Don't feed wolves or leave pet food outside
- Report wolves frequently near people to the DNR
- Maintain control on pets
- In spring and summer, stay away from sites where wolves may have den or rendezvous sites while walking your dog



For more information on wolves...

Check out these sites.

International Wolf Center

Wisconsin DNR

Michigan DNR

Timber Wolf Alliance

Timber Wolf Information
Network

Attend another workshop

- October, Wolf Ecology Workshop with TWA
- Wolf Awareness Week 3rd Week of October
- November, Carnivore Tracking Course with TWA
- August, Wolf Weekend

Thank you!

*If you liked our presentation
please consider donating to the
Timber Wolf Alliance!*

<https://www.northland.edu/sustain/soei/twa/>

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QUESTIONS?

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.NORTHLAND.EDU/SUSTAIN/SOEI/TWA/](https://www.northland.edu/sustain/soei/twa/)

OR EMAIL US AT [SOEI@NORTHLAND.EDU](mailto:soei@northland.edu)