



**Meeting Report
Stakeholder Working Group
Meeting on Wolves in California
March 26, 2014**

CDFW Office of Training and Development
Training Center
1740 North Market Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95834



Photo Courtesy of Gary Kramer

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

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1.0 Introduction

On March 26, 2014 the California Wolf Stakeholder Working Group (SWG) reconvened to continue their work toward the development of a California wolf management plan. The meeting took place at the Training Center at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) Office of Training and Development in Sacramento, CA. The group's previous general meeting took place on February 26, 2014 at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area conference room in Davis, California.

2.0 Meeting Objectives and Mechanics

The stated purpose of the meeting was to:

Continue to engage the SWG in the wolf planning process and work toward the completion of a California wolf plan.

Objectives of the meeting were:

1. Receive updates on facilitation contract, OR7, 2013 wolf population updates from western states, status review/petition and Fish and Game Commission hearing
2. Summarize SWG subgroup meetings
3. Discuss group's comments on February meeting report and draft chapters on Wolf-Ungulate Interactions, Wolf-Livestock Interactions, and Information and Education
4. Discuss peer review panel, wolf management zones, and Mexican wolf
5. Discuss potential amendments to Title 14 for gray wolf management
6. Review the project schedule

The meeting was attended in person by 16 stakeholders, with two additional members attending via conference line. Two CDFW staff attended in person, and two via conference line. Appendix A provides a list of participants, their affiliations, and their contact information. Other attendees included three legislative representatives, whose names and contact information are captured in Appendix B. The meeting agenda is provided in Appendix C of this document, and all slides presented are captured in Appendix D.

3.0 Meeting Outputs

The SWG's standing ground rules are:

- Seek to learn and understand each other's perspective
- Encourage respectful, candid, and constructive discussions
- Provide balance of speaking time

- Seek to resolve differences and reach consensus
- Discuss topics together rather than in isolation
- Make every effort to avoid surprises
- Limit sidebars
- Turn off cell phones/switch to non-ring mode

The SWG's operating principles goals are:

1. If and when wolves establish in California, seek to conserve self-sustaining populations of wolves in the state
2. Manage the distribution of wolves in the state where there is adequate habitat
3. Manage native ungulate populations in the state to provide abundant prey for wolves and other predators, intrinsic enjoyment by the public, and harvest opportunities for hunters
4. Manage wolf-livestock conflicts to minimize livestock losses
5. Communicate to the public that natural dispersal of wolves into California is reasonably foreseeable given the expanding populations in the Pacific Northwest, inform the public with science-based information of gray wolves and the conservation and management needs of wolves in California, as well as the effects of having wolves in the state

Introductions and Housekeeping

Mr. Stopher opened the meeting with a welcome and housekeeping items. He then announced that when subgroups report, Mr. Bob Timm will present the Wolf-Livestock Subgroup, Ms. Pam Flick will present for the Wolf Conservation Subgroup, and either Mr. Bill Gaines or Mr. Jerry Springer will present for the Wolf-Ungulate Subgroup.

Updates

- Contract for SWG meeting facilitation: contract dispute was resolved by Department of General Services in favor of CDFW, and the final steps are underway toward having the contract in place. The contract was awarded to Kearns and West, and their representative Sam Magill attended today's meeting in order to get to know SWG members some before coming on board officially in the near future.
- OR7: is still in the same location in Oregon, in the vicinity of Mt. McLoughlin.
- 2013 wolf population updates from western states: the states provide their annual wolf reports for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) at this time of year. The Service then develops a short summary comparing wolf demographics with those of the previous year. As of today the Service has not produced their summary, nor have Wyoming, Montana, or Idaho produced their annual reports. Oregon's report is out and their population increased to approximately 64.

Breeding pairs declined from six to four. In Washington they have presented their findings to their Fish and Game Commission, but have not yet published their report. They report an increase in wolf population to 52, and six breeding pairs which is a slight increase. We are interested in seeing the population changes after the implementation of wolf harvest, especially in Idaho.

- Status review/petition and FGC hearing: the FGC will address the wolf listing petition at the April 16 meeting in Ventura, and they may make their listing decision then.

Summary of Subgroup Meetings and Planning

Wolf-Livestock Subgroup (WLS)

The group last met on March 25. Thus far there has been communication among members, with constructive dialogue. They have a common goal to find a strategy to minimize conflicts and negative consequences of wolves on livestock. The group have done a detailed state-by-state comparison of strategies used in other states and are just beginning to get into specifics in discussing such strategies for California, which may lead to some challenges. There are two “caucuses” represented by the WLS: agriculture and conservation, and they have tried to be efficient by presenting one set of comments and opinions for each caucus as they work through the California strategies. The big issue that arose yesterday was over which agency would have the responsibility for determining cause of predation, in the event that a depredation compensation program is adopted.

Wolf–Ungulate Subgroup (WUS)

The group’s second meeting was on March 19. At that meeting the group spent significant time looking at several of Idaho’s elk management zones, and compared zones where wolf predation on elk is high versus low, where the habitat is considered good versus bad (for elk). They are beginning to discuss how many wolves California might be able to support based on the ungulate populations, and to consider whether wolves would stay in California and switch to alternative prey such as deer in the event that the elk population here is too small, or if they would return to Oregon where the elk populations are greater. The WUS also discussed the concept of wolf zones, and what issues might arise should wolves leave the proposed zone to follow migratory prey. They also reviewed the draft Wolf-Ungulate chapter, and had some disagreements over certain elements. The next meeting will probably get into more specifics such as what strategies can be employed if or when we detect negative effects of wolves on ungulates. One SWG member asked if this subgroup had all the information they needed to start moving forward with a strategy and Mr. Springer expressed that more information was needed, such as the amount of biomass wolves require.

Wolf Conservation Subgroup (WCS)

This group met last on March 13, during which they began a review of the Washington Wolf Conservation chapter with a particular emphasis toward population viability, distribution, genetic diversity, and suitable habitat such as road density and connectivity. Mr. Stopher also led the WCS in the discussion over the Idaho wildlife management zones, which was helpful in seeing that while some zones are experiencing declines due to predation, others are increasing, some to well above their population objectives. This presentation also helped demonstrate that one zone in particular, which is adjacent to Yellowstone National Park, had elk declines due to hunting, predation, and agriculture conflicts, including the establishment of commercial elk ranching operations which exclude wild elk from important winter range.. The group also agreed that the concept of wolf management zones have merit but needs further discussion. Other topics discussed in brief were a public polling effort, the energetic needs of wolves, how white-tailed deer differ from mule deer, and how the USFWS for the northern Rocky Mountains and Oregon came up with their respective wolf recovery objectives.

SWG Comments on:

February 26 SWG Meeting Report

No comments were presented by the SWG, however due to the volume of reading material the group has been given to look over, many have not yet had the opportunity to read it closely. Mr. Stopher assured them they can still provide comments via email at a later date.

Draft Chapters

Before proceeding with discussion of the chapters, Mr. Stopher explained that these draft chapters are the first iterations of what the Department has put together, and that the SWG is viewing Department work at a much earlier stage than is typically done for management plans. These chapters will be fine-tuned in the coming weeks, and will be synthesized into a full first draft for SWG review sometime in June or July, at which time members who have not yet had the chance to comment will be able to do so. This will occur before the public draft is presented. Several members expressed the opinion that the expert peer review should take place before the public draft is released, so that the public and the FGC will benefit from expert recommendations to the Department. Many also expressed the opinion that the entire plan development process was too fast and did not allow for adequate review by them. One member concurred in general, but expressed that the education element should be developed and implemented sooner. Finally, the group discussed whether the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process might affect the outcome of the plan, and the SWG's ability to achieve consensus. Mr. Stopher explained that as the chapters are developed the Department

will be evaluating them through the “CEQA lens” to determine if they constitute a project as defined under CEQA. If it is decided that the plan constitutes a project, there will be significant additional effort required to finalize it.

Chapter 3: Wolf-Ungulate Interactions

Little time was spent discussing this very early draft. The first 18 pages are most relevant for review at this point, and the remaining pages were extracted from the Washington wolf plan to demonstrate the type of information that they considered important for a Wolf-Ungulate chapter. SWG members will take time in the coming weeks to look it over and provide feedback to the Department.

Chapter 6: Wolf-Livestock Interactions

Mr. Stopher informed the group that the livestock diseases section had been removed from this chapter, and may be developed as part of a stand-alone chapter on all diseases that may be of significance in the wolf plan. A final decision has not been made yet on that issue.

Mr. Figura, the chapter’s author, explained that he will attempt to show cattle and sheep allotments and their densities using U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management data as a way to predict potential conflicts. He will integrate those data into a map that will appear in the next draft of the chapter. As discussed in the previous day’s Wolf-Livestock Interactions Subgroup meeting, the data may not be as straightforward as hoped, and may therefore not be able to address all of the questions that arise, but it is the best information we have and we will fully disclose the drawbacks.

One member requested a copy of the table of contents which would allow her to evaluate if there appears to be any information gaps that should be filled in the plan.

Chapter 8: Information and Education

Because this chapter was more fully developed, it received more discussion than the other two. The following is a list of comments and suggestions presented by members:

- Early implementation of this section would be ideal
- Many of the stakeholders listed in the document could be important collaborators with the Department to coordinate outreach to their constituents
- Partnering for outreach has value but the right messenger for the right audience is important
- How much of the education piece will be included as plan objectives and how much will be contained in a separate document?

- On line 7 of page 1, it should read “...wolf management issues are unbiased and objective...” rather than “...wolves and wolf management issues be portrayed...”
- On item 15 of page 5 “presence” should be defined.
- The use of “etc” occurs in multiple places. Specific examples should be given rather than “etc”
- Consider communities that may need education in different languages
- Communication Plan Goals on page 2 names livestock producers and outdoor recreationists in a few places but it’s important to remember those who live in rural areas
- Public safety should be mentioned specifically as an objective to help people protect themselves
- The public was not informed that OR7 was in California in January on the CDFW website
- On page 4, line 9, what does the Wolf Education Coordinator* refer to, including the asterisk?
- The first paragraph of page 4 reads like a job listing
- Give us specific deadlines for providing comments on these chapters

Discussion of:

Peer Review Panel

Mr. Stopher presented the SWG with a request for recommendations for expert peer reviewers for the wolf plan. The Department would like individuals with expertise in wolf-livestock interactions and wolf-ungulate predation dynamics. Also it would be valuable to the Department if there were experts nominated by the caucuses as opposed to by individuals. Nominees should have the ability to be objective and articulate, to be well perceived by a diverse group, and should be able to start soon. Additionally, the Department expects to offer the panelists a stipend for their work.

Wolf Management Zones

Mr. Stopher used the map presented by Mr. Steve Torres at the last SWG meeting (see slide 5 in Appendix D) to illustrate this topic. He described how the map was developed using data from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, which was based on wolf habitat models developed for the Northern Rockies, and modified for California. The habitat was then divided into three potential wolf management zones based on differences in human, livestock, and ungulate densities. These zones were discussed by the Wolf Conservation subgroup at their last meeting, and one big question that arose was what if a dispersing wolf or a wolf pack is detected outside of one of the three zones? So the Wolf Conservation subgroup initially proposed that the three zones provide management coverage for the entire state. These proposed zones could be the

northeast, northwest, and the balance of the state. The northeast zone could be demarcated by I-5 to the west, and I-80 to the south. The northwest zone could be demarcated by I-5 to the east, and by an extension of I-80 to the south. Mr. Stopher asked the SWG for any comments on this idea, which are provided below.

- The likelihood of wolves in the “balance of the state” is pretty low for a long time. I suggest focusing on the northern zones with a note in the plan that more detail will be provided for the third zone as wolf occurrence there becomes more likely.
- That idea concerns me. I suggest developing specific strategies for all zones while this group is convened.
- In Oregon and Washington they recognized that it would take a longer time for wolves to occur in the west but they developed specifics for those areas. This gave people in those areas some assurances for what to expect.
- I have mixed feelings about the zonal approach. I realize the value of different management in these very different areas, but I worry because we still don’t know how many wolves we can sustain in the north. If we assume they will inhabit the southern Sierra and we can’t meet objectives statewide until each zone is fulfilled we may set ourselves up for something we won’t be able to accomplish.
- The conservation caucus felt that a zonal approach gives more management flexibility than a statewide approach would. If objectives are met in one zone you can start to do management there without having to wait for the whole state to reach objectives.
- Some of what we can do will be determined by state law. In Oregon they cannot delist in part of the state so they made the provision that when they delist it will be done statewide but in the west they would continue to manage wolves as if they were still listed. We should look into California law to see what we would need to consider.
- I’m hearing lots about management flexibility but not much about management options. What’s different once they reach population objectives in our management options?
- I urge you to explore the meaning of the word management. It doesn’t just mean killing.
- How can we put a number on how many wolves we can support in an area when we don’t know what effect they will have on ungulates? We may trap ourselves when we set numbers. A sustainable wolf population may be to a disadvantage to other species.
- Can we define objectives qualitatively rather than quantitatively? Can we use ecological functioning as a target rather than cut and dried numbers?

- There has been uncertainty for Oregon and Washington, and in the California status review effort. We can't let uncertainty stymie our progress. The plan should be iterative and adaptive.
- We definitely need to consider what actions to take if the ungulate numbers decline rapidly.
- Do we have a minimum ungulate population below which we limit the tag sales?
- Will the Fish and Game Commission give us wolf population objectives if they do list the species?
- CESA doesn't require specific numbers like the Federal Endangered Species Act does.
- In the Northern Rockies wolf population objectives were set by the USFWS. How did Oregon and Washington come up with their objectives? If we go with a numbers approach it should be science-based and not political.
- Wolves have been managed differently than other predators. What other predators does the Department manage when there are interactions between them and their natural prey?

Mr. Torres gave some information about his experience on two recovery teams for bighorn sheep. In those cases a panel of scientists discussed what to manage for, as opposed to specific population numbers. Because bighorn occur in philopatric ewe groups (i.e. the ewes remain in the vicinity of their birthplace), the panel suggested that managing for ewe group size was a reasonable approach. The plans contained some sideboards, such as lethal control of mountain lions if a ewe group dropped below some number. A similar approach could be considered for wolves, wherein wolf demographic units (i.e. packs or breeding pairs) are managed for. These objectives might differ in different areas depending on that area's suitability in terms of prey availability, and human density.

Mexican Wolf

Mr. Stopher explained some considerations with respect to how much effort to put into including planning for Mexican wolf in the current California wolf planning effort. This subspecies will continue to be federally listed, and to date all members of the population wear radio collars. There is a very low probability of Mexican wolf occurrence in California in the next several years, due in part to the fact that all wolves that leave the experimental population area in Arizona and New Mexico are captured and returned by the USFWS. In addition, the habitat that separates the experimental population area from California is extremely harsh, with very few to no ungulates. In his opinion it is therefore not reasonable to develop management objectives for Mexican wolves at this time. The following comments and questions were presented by SWG members:

- I would recommend that nothing in the plan exclude the possibility of Mexican wolves being in the state at some point. We should include some language in the plan that we will revisit the issue in 5 years.
- That would be an important part of the education and outreach component especially for Southern California.
- I would urge that in the education component we include that we know a Mexican wolf occurred here based on DNA analysis that was done on a museum specimen that was collected in Southern California in the 1920s.

There was consensus by the SWG that this plan will not propose a management strategy for Mexican wolves. The Plan will acknowledge that Mexican wolves were once present, may someday return and that the Plan will need to be amended, if that happens, to provide for appropriate management of Mexican wolves.

Discussion of Potential Title 14 Amendments for Gray Wolf Management

Mr. Stopher opened this section by describing land management actions that may be impacted if the FGC decides to list wolves. Under CESA, there are only a couple of options for getting a permit to “take” a listed species: 1. An Incidental Take Permit (ITP) may be issued to entities that may unintentionally take a listed species while undertaking a “project;” and 2. Research and management actions may also warrant issuance of a Scientific Collecting Permit when those actions are for the conservation of the species. In the case of wolves, the industry which may incidentally “take” wolves is the timber industry, due to the likelihood of wolves inhabiting forested areas. However, incidental take is only likely to occur at wolf dens and rendezvous sites. Because wolf territories are so large, the impact on them due to take is probably minimal. The locations of den and rendezvous sites will likely be well known to the Department, because it is expected that, as with Oregon and Washington, California’s wolf packs will be collared and their locations closely monitored.

The next discussion revolved around the concept of developing language for Title 14, the Natural Resources portion of California administrative law. Title 14 contains regulations that govern the Fish and Game Commission, and the Department. One idea put forth was the possibility of generating a new section that would start with a preamble like “Notwithstanding any other section of these regulations, here is how we manage gray wolves in California...” As an example, the definition of “take” as it applies to wolves could be presented. In Mr. Stopher’s opinion, this effort would be worth undertaking regardless of whether wolves become listed because it would allow the Department to have options for management that would not be specified in CESA. Importantly, if the species becomes listed, the take definition and other provisions the group would develop for Title 14, would be preempted by the statute. Mr. Stopher then prompted the SWG for their comments, which follow:

- We should wait until we find out if they are listed. If not listed this is very valuable but if listed it will be a long time before they are ever delisted.
- I agree we should wait for the FGC to make their decision, but it would be an important mechanism for establishing in regulation what's in the plan and making it enforceable.
- Our view is the wolf is endangered and the law that protects it is therefore CESA; there may be no need for another regulatory aspect. However I echo the need to establish in regulation the enforceability of the plan.
- I think CESA is a blunt instrument with no provision for appropriate management tools. I would rather see the plan figure out how to manage wolves and look at creating the regulatory system to set those parameters. I agree that it's too early to figure out the details but when we find out if it's listed we can continue a thoughtful conversation about the regulations.
- How many CESA listed species have been delisted? My point is the number is very small so if wolves are listed this exercise is moot.
- In Oregon and Washington the species was state listed and they developed a plan; the states are still implementing the plans; many parts of the plans are working.

Review Project Schedule

Mr. Stopher solicited any thoughts from the group about the project schedule. No comments or questions were offered.

Conclusion and Wrap-up

The next meeting is scheduled for April 30th again at the Department's Office of Training and Development. Wildlife Branch staff will be present to provide information on deer and elk in California. He hopes to be able to discuss the outcome of the FGC decision on listing, additional discussion about Title 14 amendments, and the management zone discussion. Finally, Mr. Stopher is expecting that Mr. Magill from Kearns and West will be present and actively facilitating the discussion. With respect to the chapters, the subgroups are working in groups within their caucus to develop a single set of comments per caucus. For comments from those SWG members who are not part of a subgroup, Mr. Stopher suggested that they submit them to the subgroup caucus to which they are most inclined.

Action Items

- As reportable information develops, the Department will provide updates to the SWG about whether the wolf plan appears to have CEQA compliance

requirements (i.e. whether or not the plan constitutes a project and therefore requires additional effort by the Department to finalize)

- Re-send the plan's table of contents
- Generate an email providing deadlines for comments on the draft chapters.

APPENDIX A. WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

Name	Affiliation	Email
Stakeholders		
Mike Ford	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	mford@rmef.org
Marilyn Jasper	Sierra Club	marilyn.jasper@mlc.sierraclub.org
Kim Baker	Environmental Protection Information Center	kimberly@wildcalifornia.org
Pamela Flick	Defenders of Wildlife	pflick@defenders.org
Noelle Cremers	California Farm Bureau	ncremers@cfsf.com
Linda Leeman	The Wildlife Society – Western Section	lweeman@gmail.com
Randy Morrison	Mule Deer Foundation	randy@muledeer.org
Robert Timm	UC Davis Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources	rtimm@ucanr.edu
Bill Gaines	California Houndsmen for Conservation	bill@outdoorheritage.org
John McNeerney	The Wildlife Society – Western Section	jmcerney@cityofdavis.org
Mark Rockwell	Endangered Species Coalition	mrockwell@stopextinction.org
Rick Gurrola	CA Ag Commission – Tehama County	rgurrola@tehamaag.net
Jerry Springer	CA Deer Association	jerry@westernhunter.com
Lesia Eidman	CA Wool Growers Association	lesia@woolgrowers.org
Damon Nagami	Natural Resources Defense Council	dnagami@nrdc.org
Amaroq Weiss	Center for Biological Diversity	aweiss@biologicaldiversity.org
Lauren Richie	CA Wolf Center	lauren.richie@californiawolfcenter.org
Kirk Wilbur	CA Cattlemen’s Assn	kirk@calcattlemen.org
California Department of Fish and Wildlife Staff		
Dan Yparraguirre	Deputy Director	pete.figura@wildlife.ca.gov
Pete Figura	Environmental Scientist – Region 1	dan.yparraguirre@wildlife.ca.gov
Mark Stopher	Senior Policy Advisor	mark.stopher@wildlife.ca.gov
Karen Converse	Environmental Scientist –Wildlife Branch	karen.converse@wildlife.ca.gov
Steve Torres	Wildlife Investigations Lab Program Manager	steve.torres@wildlife.ca.gov

APPENDIX B. PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS AND COMMENTS

Name	Affiliation	Email
Legislative Representatives		
Erin Ryan	Congressman Doug LaMalfa's Office	ErinMarie.ryan@mail.house.gov
Catherine Bird	Senator Ted Gaines's Office	Catherine.bird@sen.ca.gov
Bruce Ross	Assemblyman Brian Dahle's Office	Bruce.Ross@asm.ca.gov

- I shared a book with Bill that contains a lot of scientific information that I'm willing to share. It may be a shortcut for the wolf-livestock people.
- About the timeline, what is it that you're hoping to have done by June or July? Is it the actual plan itself?

APPENDIX C. AGENDA

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
 March 26, 2014 Meeting - California Wolf Stakeholders Working Group
 Office of Training and Development, 1740 North Market Blvd, Sacramento CA
 Conference call number 888.379.9287
 Participant code 476990

PARKING – Please park on the east or south sides of the building or across the street. Do not park in the 20 minute slots in front of the building.

Purpose – To continue to engage the SWG in the wolf planning process and work towards the completion of a California wolf plan

Agenda

• Gather in the meeting room	8:45
• Welcome, Introductions and Changes in SWG membership	9:00
• Agenda and Ground Rules	9:10
• Updates:	9:15
1. Contract facilitation for SWG meetings/Wolf Plan	
2. OR7	
3. 2013 wolf population updates from western states	
4. Status Review/Petition and FGC hearing	
• Summary of subgroup SWG meetings/planning	9:30
Wolf-Livestock Report – TBD	
Wolf-Ungulate Report – TBD	
Wolf Conservation Report – Pam Flick	
• SWG comments on:	10:00
SWG meeting report from February 26	
Chapter 3 Wolf Ungulate Interactions	
Chapter 6 Wolf-Livestock Interactions	
Chapter 8 Information and Education	
• LUNCH (SWG members on their own for lunch)	11:45
• Discussion of:	1:00
Wolf Management Zones	
Mexican Wolf	
• Discussion of potential Title 14 amendments for management of gray wolf	1:45
BREAK	2:30
• Review Project Schedule	2:45
• Future meeting date (April 30, 2014) location and agenda for next SWG meeting.	3:00
• Meeting Review and Conclusion	3:30
• Questions from the public	3:45
Adjourn	4:00

APPENDIX D. POWERPOINT SLIDES PRESENTED

California Wolf Stakeholders Working
Group (SWG) Meeting
CDFW Office of Training and
Development, Sacramento, CA
March 26, 2014

Members please sit at tables. Public
attendees please select chairs along
the walls

Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions and Changes in SWG membership 9:00
- Agenda and Ground Rules 9:10
- Updates 9:15
- Reports of subgroup SWG meetings/planning 9:30
- SWG comments on documents 10:00
- LUNCH (SWG members on their own for lunch) 11:45
- Discussion of:
 - Peer Review Panel 1:00
 - Wolf Management Zones
 - Mexican Wolf
- Discussion of potential Title 14 amendments for management of gray wolf 1:45
- BREAK 2:30
- Review Project Schedule 2:45
- Future meeting date (April 30, 2014) location and agenda for next SWG meeting. 3:00
- Meeting Review and Conclusion 3:30
- Questions from the public 3:45
- Adjourn 4:00

SWG GROUND RULES

- Seek to learn and understand each other's perspective.
- Encourage respectful, candid, and constructive discussions.
- Provide balance of speaking time.
- Seek to resolve differences and reach consensus.
- Discuss topics together rather than in isolation.
- Make every effort to avoid surprises.
- Limit sidebars.
- Turn off cell phones/switch to non-ring mode.
- Reminder to public regarding their participation.

Title 14 Regulation

(some possible components)

- Relationship to other regulations
- Take standards
- Management zone designation
- Management zone distinctions
- Emergency Closures to protect gray wolves
- Management
 - Livestock Conflicts
 - Conflicts with conservation of other wildlife
 - Public safety

Combined grid cells that indicated wolf pack potential (in any of 3 models)



Potential Wolf Management Units

- Northwestern Management Unit
- Northeastern Management Unit
- (Great Basin subunit)
- Sierra Nevada Management Unit

Distribution and habitat use maps should change and be adaptive to new information

Uncertainties:

- Use of coast range and southward
- Barriers of I-5, I-80, and Great Basin Desert
- Southern expansion to Sierra Nevada
- Importance of Elk as prey influencing distribution

Use of east or west slopes of the Sierra Nevada

Landscape:

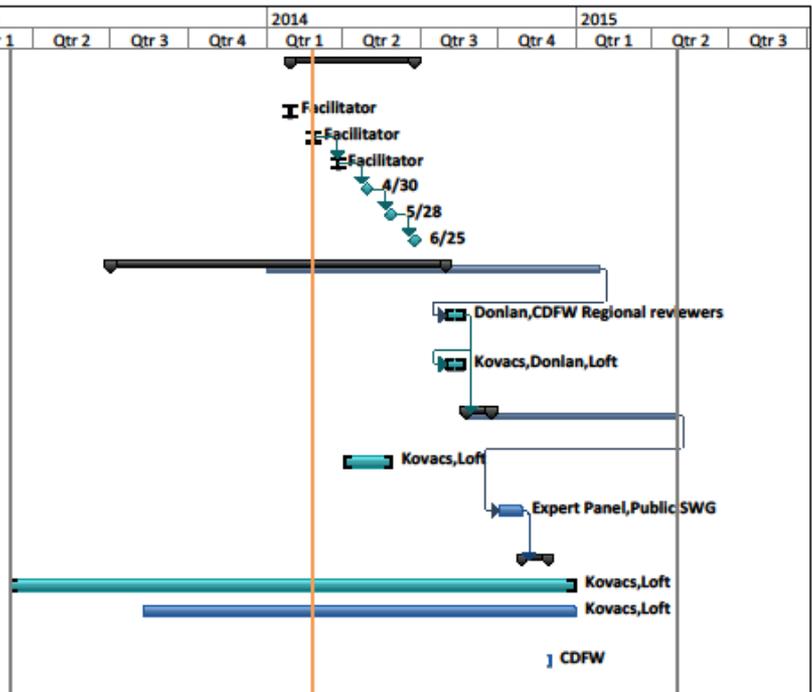
- Central Valley barrier
- Landscapes connectivity in potential management units
- Ungulate diversity



Management Zone concept

- Northwest zone
 - Elk, blacktail deer, low human density, less livestock
- Northeast zone
 - Elk, mule deer, blacktail deer, low human density, more livestock
- Southern zone (within potential habitat)
 - higher elevations, migratory blacktail deer, fewer livestock, more people and development

ID	Task Name	Resource Names	Start	Finish	2013				2014				2015				
					Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3		
1	Task 1 - Wolf Stakeholder Working Group	Kovacs,Loft,Donlan,Stoph	Wed 1/29/14	Wed 6/25/14													
2	1.1 SWG Meeting	Facilitator	Wed 1/29/14	Wed 1/29/14													
3	1.2 SWG Meeting	Facilitator	Wed 2/26/14	Wed 2/26/14													
4	1.3 SWG Meeting	Facilitator	Wed 3/26/14	Wed 3/26/14													
5	1.4 SWG Meeting	Facilitator	Wed 4/30/14	Wed 4/30/14													
6	1.5 SWG Meeting	Facilitator	Wed 5/28/14	Wed 5/28/14													
7	1.6 SWG Meeting	Facilitator	Wed 6/25/14	Wed 6/25/14													
8	Task 2 - Write Preliminary Draft CA Wolf Plan	CDFW Staff	Mon 7/1/13	Thu 7/31/14													
23	Task 3 Internal Review of Preliminary Draft	Donlan,CDFW Regional reviewers	Fri 8/1/14	Fri 8/22/14													
24	Task 4 - Evaluate necessity for CEQA compliance	Kovacs,Donlan,Loft	Fri 8/1/14	Fri 8/22/14													
25	Task 5 - Write Public Review Draft CA Wolf Plan	CDFW Staff	Mon 8/25/14	Mon 9/22/14													
38	Task 6 - Select and Assemble Peer Review Panel	Kovacs,Loft	Wed 4/2/14	Wed 5/28/14													
39	Task 7 - Public, SWG and Expert Panel Review of Draft Plan	Expert Panel,Public,SWG	Thu 10/2/14	Wed 10/29/14													
40	Task 8 - Write Final CA Wolf Plan	CDFW Staff	Thu 10/30/14	Fri 11/28/14													
52	Task 9 - Coordinate with Tribes	Kovacs,Loft	Mon 3/4/13	Wed 12/31/14													
53	Task 10 - Coordinate with Federal Land Managers	Kovacs,Loft	Fri 8/9/13	Wed 12/31/14													
54	Task 11 - Public release of Final Wolf Plan	CDFW	Mon 12/1/14	Mon 12/1/14													



Project: CA Wolf Plan Concept Date: Tue 2/25/14	Task		External Tasks		Manual Task		Finish-only	
	Split		External Milestone		Duration-only		Deadline	
	Milestone		Inactive Task		Manual Summary Rollup		Progress	
	Summary		Inactive Milestone		Manual Summary			
	Project Summary		Inactive Summary		Start-only			

Mexican Wolf Experimental Population Area



Mexican Wolf Considerations

- Management designed to retain MW in Blue Range Recovery Area
- Harsh conditions and distance limit dispersal to CA
- Poor habitat (very few ungulates) in California's Mohave Desert
- Very little information to base planning on for CA

APPENDIX E. CALIFORNIA WOLF PLAN PROJECT SCHEDULE (2/11/14 VERSION)

