



*Help bring
the wolf home*

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state agencies, and elected officials need to hear from you. Let them know that you want progress on wolf recovery planning in the Northeast and federal and state-level protections in place for wolves. Write to:

All states Chief of Endangered Species, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Westgate Center Dr., Hadley, MA 01035

Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, 284 State St., 41 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0041; ifw.webmaster@maine.gov

New Hampshire Fish and Game Dept., 11 Hazen Dr., Concord, NH 03301; comments@wildlife.state.nh.us

New York Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Bureau of Wildlife, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4751; fwwildlf@gw.dec.state.ny.us

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife Dept., 103 So. Main St., Center Bldg., Waterbury, VT 05671-0301; fwinformation@state.vt.us

Contact CREW with any questions or to stay informed about wolf recovery in the Northeast. All contributions in support of our education and policy work are tax-deductible. **Please make out checks to the Wildlands Project, put "CREW" in the memo line, and send to CREW.** (See the back of this brochure for our address, phone, and e-mail.)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

The Coalition to Restore the Eastern Wolf (CREW) brings together the expertise and skills of local, regional, and national organizations. By coordinating efforts and sharing resources, CREW enhances progress toward wolf recovery and habitat conservation.

Our mission is to ensure the recovery of healthy populations of the wolf in as much of its former range in the northeastern United States and southeastern Canada as is feasible. We look forward to the day when wolves once again roam the forests of Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont.

- Adirondack Council
- Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks
- Audubon Society, Maine
- Audubon Society, St. Lawrence/Adirondacks
- CLAN: Wolf Defenders Québec
- Defenders of Wildlife
- Earthroots: Wolves Ontario!
- Forest Watch
- The Humane Society of the United States
- Keeping Track
- Maine Wolf Coalition
- Mission:Wolf
- National Wildlife Federation
- Northeast Ecological Recovery Society
- RESTORE: The North Woods
- Rockhopper Outdoor Education
- St. Francis Wolf Sanctuary
- Sierra Club
- Wildlands Project
- Wildlife Alliance of Maine
- Wildlife Land Trust
- Wild Sentry
- Wolf Conservation Center

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To learn more, visit
www.easternwolf.org

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RESTORING THE WOLF

Opportunities for the Northeast



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FOR THE HEALTH OF OUR FORESTS, for the good of our souls, it's time to make peace with the wolf. The wolf's howl was silenced in the Northeast by habitat destruction and bounty hunting more than 100 years ago. Since then, the region's forests have grown back, and many wildlife species have returned home.

But the wolf is still missing. Human barriers—roads, cities and towns, and other development—make it hard for wolves to migrate from Canada. At the same time, human fears and political conflict prevent progress on developing recovery plans.

The successful return of the wolf will require understanding and support from all citizens. The Coalition to Restore the Eastern Wolf (CREW) invites you to explore the possibilities of reviving the Northeast's wild legacy and making the region's forests whole again. After cen-

turies of persecution, the wolf deserves a chance to return to the land where it once roamed free.

Restoring the wolf = restoring nature

In an effort to tame the wilderness, American settlers eliminated wildlife considered threatening. This approach to nature continued for generations as agriculture and towns expanded. Like many wild species, wolves reached the brink of extinction before we realized how much we need them.



After decades of watching the quality of land and environments decline, scientists, conservationists, and many ranchers, farmers, and hunters have learned one of nature's greatest lessons: *balance is everything*.

As top carnivores, wolves regulate entire food chains, so their presence is critical to having healthy, stable environments. And because wolves need large areas to hunt and form new packs, maintaining enough habitat for them also means having enough for many other animals, like lynx, hare, and songbirds.

Room for wolves

From New York's Adirondack Park, across northern Vermont and New Hampshire, to the Maine Woods, researchers have identified areas where wolves can survive and thrive (see map).

During the 1990s, federal agencies developed a recovery plan for the eastern wolf. For political reasons, this process has been halted in the last few years. But protecting both wolves and their potential habitat is more important than ever. Public support is necessary to move forward at both the state and federal levels, now and in the future.



Wolves and humans together...again

Many myths surround the legendary wolf. Given the historic “demonization” of wolves, it's understandable that people wonder if it's safe to live alongside them. But wolves have always had far more to fear from us than we do from them.

No person has ever been killed by a healthy, wild wolf in the United States. Wolves account for only a tiny fraction of livestock deaths and don't decrease hunting opportunities. At the same time, hunting, trapping, traffic, and some management practices are key causes of wolf deaths.

Fortunately, better understanding of the wolf's complex social structure and critical ecological role have reduced wolf-human conflict. Improved livestock husbandry practices and rancher compensation programs have also been very important.

Across the United States, recovery efforts have been successful and public opinion is clearly on the side of the wolf. *Isn't it time for Northeasterners to join so many other Americans in welcoming the wolf home?*