

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

April 7, 2016

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable Daniel Ashe
Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C Street, NW Room 3331
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell and Director Ashe:

We recently learned of the forthcoming Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Plan Meeting in Mexico City, which will include officials from Mexico, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (the Service), and the States of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah. In any discussions regarding Mexican gray wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*) recovery, we strongly encourage full and fair consideration of management strategies that would bolster a binational approach. As the governors of our states agree, with proper on-the-ground strategies, staff, and resources, recovery of *Canis lupus baileyi* populations can succeed within the subspecies' historic binational range. Additionally, as approximately 90 percent of the subspecies' historic range is in Mexico, we hope your discussions reflect that considerable proportion.

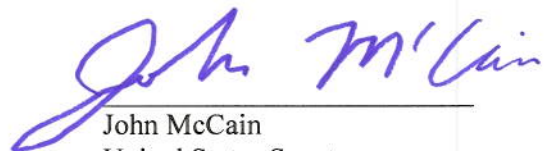
We share the serious concerns of the governors of our states regarding the Service's planned approach to recovery plan development. However, we have been encouraged by recent remarks from the Service, which forecast a commitment to recovering the subspecies without intention of northward expansion of the geographic scope of ongoing recovery efforts. We hope that the April meeting will constitute an opportunity to demonstrate the substance of these remarks. With that said, if revised plans for the subspecies anticipate expanded geographic reach of recovery efforts, we ask for sincere examination of the excellent binational recovery opportunities.

We appreciate the complexities and tensions surrounding the recovery of this culturally iconic subspecies. Nonetheless, any decisions regarding the recovery plan will have widespread impacts across a spectrum of interests and states. We will continue to monitor this important process closely and value your commitment to a recovery plan that takes into account its far-reaching effects.

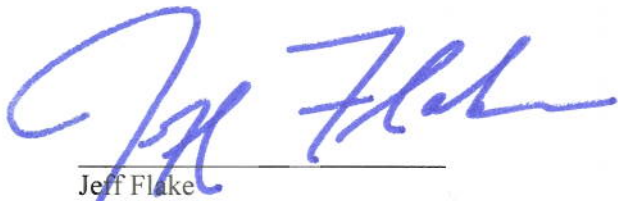
Sincerely,



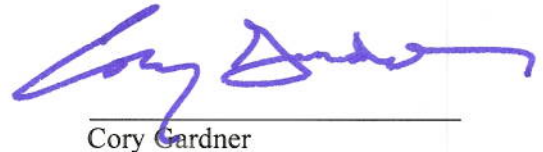
Orrin G. Hatch
United States Senator



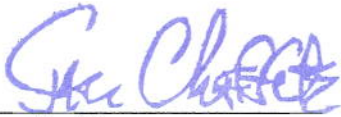
John McCain
United States Senator



Jeff Flake
United States Senator



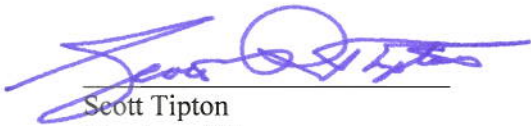
Cory Gardner
United States Senator



Jason Chaffetz
Member of Congress



Chris Stewart
Member of Congress



Scott Tipton
Member of Congress