

**1) What are the statutory requirements related to wolf management?**

Section [29.185\(1m\), Wis. Stats.](#), provides that if the wolf is not listed on the federal endangered list and is not listed on the state endangered list, the department shall allow the hunting and trapping of wolves, regulate such hunting and trapping as required by statute, and implement a wolf management plan. Subsequent provisions of s. 29.185 provide additional requirements. Subsection (2) establishes that a wolf harvest license is required in order to lawfully harvest a wolf. Subsection (3) directs the department to issue wolf harvesting license to applicants who pay the required fee according to a described issuing system that allocates 50 percent of license by randomized drawing and 50 percent by preference point drawing when the number of applications exceeds the number of available licenses. Subsection (4) establishes a process by which an applicant may transfer a license to any eligible person aged 18 or older and related requirements. Subsection (5) directs the department to establish a single annual open season for both hunting and trapping wolves that begins on the first Saturday in November of each year and ends on the last day of February of the following year. Additionally, sub. (5) directs the department to divide the state into wolf harvesting zones which shall be open to both hunting and trapping, unless the department follows a described process to close a wolf harvesting zone upon a finding by the department that the closure is necessary to effectively manage the state's wolf population. Subsection (6) describes the activities authorized by a wolf harvest license. Finally, subsection (7) requires the department to issue a wolf carcass tag to each person who is issued a wolf harvest license and permits the department to establish a method of registration and requirements for carcass presentation.

[Section 29.888, Wis. Stats.](#), directs the department to administer a wolf depredation program when wolves are not listed on the federal or state list of endangered and threatened species and provides additional instruction related to the administration of the program. Under this program, payments may be made to persons who apply for reimbursement for death or injury caused by wolves to livestock, hunting dogs (other than those being actively used in the hunting of wolves) and pets and for management and control activities conducted by the department for the purpose of reducing damage caused by wolves.

**2) What is the population goal in the current Department wolf management plan?**

The Natural Resources Board approved the 1999 Wolf Management Plan, along with the 2007 addendum, which identifies “the state population management goal would be a late winter count of 350 wolves outside of Native American reservations.”

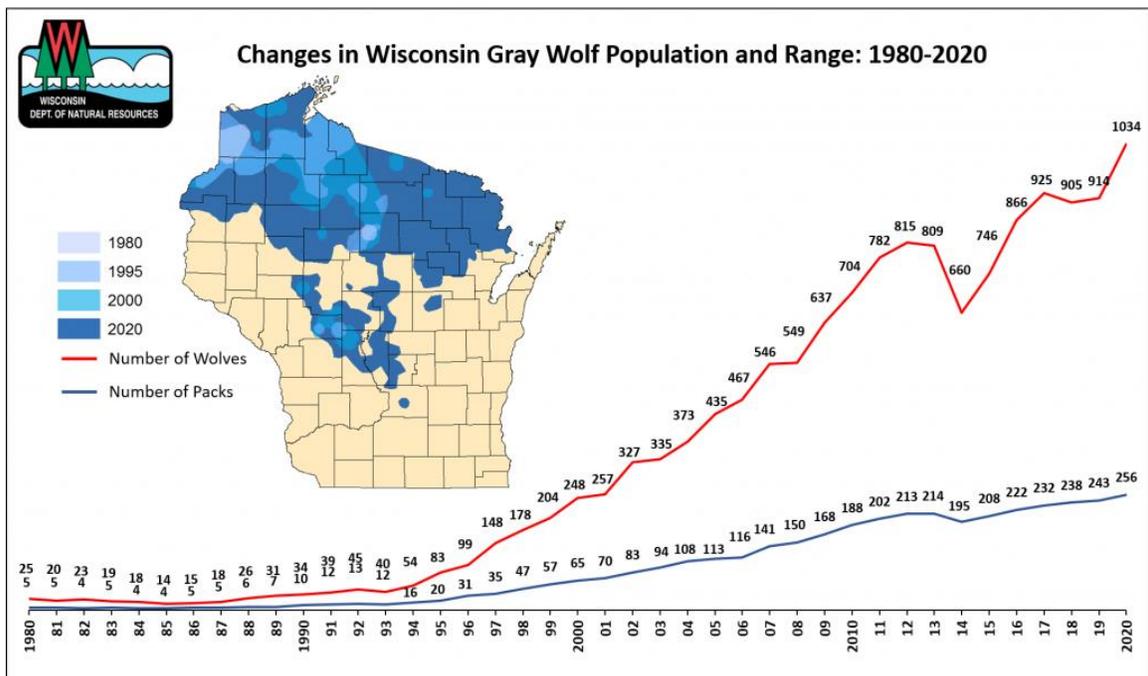
**3) Please provide a copy of the current Department wolf management plan.**

A copy of the [1999 Wolf Management Plan, with the 2007 addendum](#) is available on the WDNR website.

4) What are the annual wolf population estimates from the year of the first hunt to current?

Year	Minimum Wolf Count
2012	815
2013	809
2014	660
2015	746
2016	866
2017	925
2018	905
2019	914
2020	1034

The graph below identifies the estimated minimum wolf count and number of packs as based on track surveys from 1980 to 2020.



**5) Please provide quota, permit, and harvest numbers from the past wolf seasons.**

Year	Total Quota	State Quota*	Permits Issued	Harvest
2012	201	116	1,160	117
2013	275	251	2,510	257
2014	156	150	1,500	154

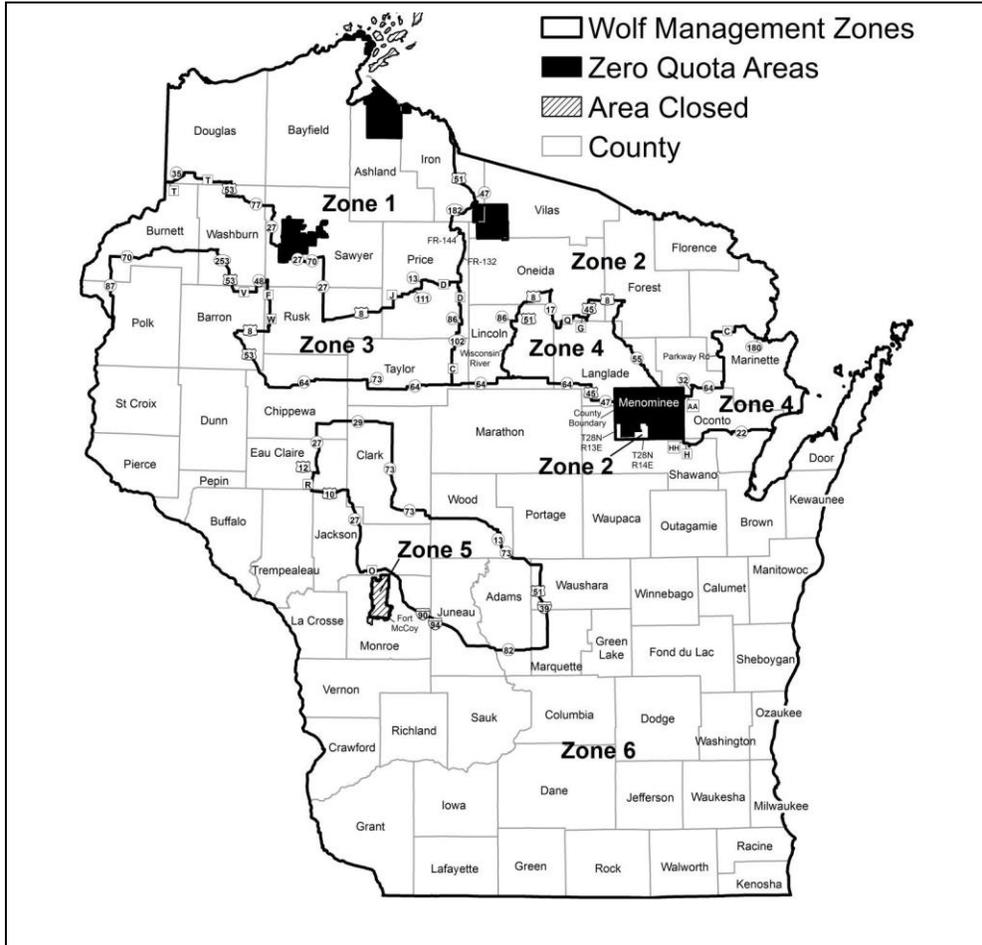
\*Wisconsin's six Ojibwe tribes may declare and harvest up to 50 percent of the wolf quota for the Ceded Territory. For the 2012 season, the Department set aside 50 percent of the Ceded Territory quota (85 wolves) for potential tribal harvest. For the 2013 season, the Department set aside 10 percent of the Ceded Territory quota (24 wolves) for potential tribal harvest. For the 2014 season, the Department set aside approximately 5 percent of the Ceded Territory quota (6 wolves) for potential tribal harvest.

**6) Please provide wolf depredation data from two years prior to the harvest seasons to current.**

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>Total Complaints (WI)</b>	183	184	169	128	163	165	111	125	134	148
<b>Verified Complaints (WI)</b>	111	95	86	64	91	100	61	73	82	98
<b>Farms with Verified Losses</b>	40	32	28	22	32	26	28	26	24	26
<b>Total # of individual livestock animals killed or injured (excluding fowl)</b>	104	58	46	30	50	70	36	51	114	72
<b># Of Hunting Dogs Killed</b>	17	6	23	21	22	41	18	19	22	29
<b># Of Hunting Dogs Injured</b>	3	1	2	9	1	11	6	14	1	15
<b># of Pet Dogs Killed</b>	3	1	3	2	6	6	1	1	2	4
<b># of Pet Dogs Injured</b>	3	2	1	0	3	2	2	1	5	1
<b>Compensation Paid</b>	\$336,129	\$149,136	\$151,333	\$138,785	\$200,505	\$197,197	\$102,600	\$144,509	\$189,749	*\$148,001

\* 2020 Compensation total will change. Claims are still being processed.

6) Below is a map of the wolf management zones used during the previous harvest seasons.



7) During the previous harvest seasons, how many days passed until the quotas were met and season closed?

- 2012 – October 15 to December 23<sup>rd</sup>; total duration of 70 days
- 2013 – October 15 to December 23<sup>rd</sup>, total duration of 70 days
- 2014 – October 15 to December 5<sup>th</sup>, total duration of 52 days