



Secretary Brooke L. Rollins

October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE KATIE HOBBS

Governor

State of Arizona

1700 W. Washington Street

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Governor Hobbs,

There has been no greater champion for American ranchers than President Donald J. Trump. In addition to issuing four Executive Orders, President Trump has directed over 40 administrative actions to support ranchers, cattle markets, and the American beef supply. Consistent with the policy directed by the President's most recent September 4th, 2026, Executive Order, "Supporting America's Ranchers," the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is strongly encouraging states to delist gray and Mexican wolves from any state-specific lists of protected species, or maintain delisted status if your state has already acted.

Wolf presence and predation events continue to raise costs for U.S. ranchers through a variety of factors, including management expenses, calf losses, and reduced weights. Studies have estimated the highest calf loss levels from wolf predation could contribute to a net farm income loss of 34% per year¹¹. With our nation's cattle herd numbers currently experiencing a 75-year low, our ranchers cannot afford to lose cattle due to wolf predation. Wolves also present a major threat to other grazing livestock, including sheep. This is why we implore you to continue working with the Department on parallel actions to mitigate wolf predation and protect U.S. ranchers from further devastating losses, including lethally taking wolves where appropriate.

Federally, both the first and second Trump Administrations have pursued actions with respect to the gray and Mexican wolf and the Endangered Species Act (ESA). While we await an updated federal decision on delisting pending litigation, states can take action to ensure the best possible outcomes and coordination with impacted producers to make management decisions based on

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local factors with local communities in mind. Many state-based plans, including population monitoring, livestock depredation control, and input from the public have demonstrated success in consultation with delisting and downlisting.

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) can assist your states by responding to requests for the removal of gray and Mexican wolves in certain states and areas when requested by the relevant federal or state agencies and supported by the requisite cooperative service or interagency agreements and environmental analyses. While the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) manages wolf populations protected at the federal level, USFWS and states may request APHIS' assistance for removal given its expertise in this area. As a reminder, requests for lethal removal must come from the state or USFWS to APHIS. When state or federal agencies request these services from APHIS, we work with our interagency partners to lethally remove wolves where possible and in accordance with state and federal law.

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We appreciate your partnership as USDA seeks to better address the threat of wolf predation to our nation's farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

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Brooke L. Rollins
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture



Secretary Brooke L. Rollins

October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE GREG GIANFORTE

Governor

State of Montana

P.O. Box 200801

Helena, MT 59620

Dear Governor Gianforte,

There has been no greater champion for American ranchers than President Donald J. Trump. In addition to issuing four Executive Orders, President Trump has directed over 40 administrative actions to support ranchers, cattle markets, and the American beef supply. Consistent with the policy directed by the President's most recent September 4th, 2026, Executive Order, "Supporting America's Ranchers," the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is strongly encouraging states to delist gray and Mexican wolves from any state-specific lists of protected species, or maintain delisted status if your state has already acted.

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Brooke L. Rollins
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture



Secretary Brooke L. Rollins

October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE BOB FERGUSON

*Governor
State of Washington
P.O. Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504*

Dear Governor Ferguson,

There has been no greater champion for American ranchers than President Donald J. Trump. In addition to issuing four Executive Orders, President Trump has directed over 40 administrative actions to support ranchers, cattle markets, and the American beef supply. Consistent with the policy directed by the President's most recent September 4th, 2026, Executive Order, "Supporting America's Ranchers," the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is strongly encouraging states to delist gray and Mexican wolves from any state-specific lists of protected species, or maintain delisted status if your state has already acted.

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Brooke L. Rollins
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture



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October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE TIM WALZ

Governor

State of Minnesota

130 State Capitol

75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd

St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Walz,

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Brooke L. Rollins
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture



Secretary Brooke L. Rollins

October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE JARED POLIS

Governor

State of Colorado

State Capitol Building

200 East Colfax Avenue, Room 136

Denver, CO 80203

Dear Governor Polis,

There has been no greater champion for American ranchers than President Donald J. Trump. In addition to issuing four Executive Orders, President Trump has directed over 40 administrative actions to support ranchers, cattle markets, and the American beef supply. Consistent with the policy directed by the President's most recent September 4th, 2026, Executive Order, "Supporting America's Ranchers," the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is strongly encouraging states to delist gray and Mexican wolves from any state-specific lists of protected species, or maintain delisted status if your state has already acted.

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Brooke L. Rollins

Secretary

United States Department of Agriculture



Secretary Brooke L. Rollins

October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE TINA KOTEK

Governor

State of Oregon

900 Court Street

Suite 254

Salem, OR 97301

Dear Governor Kotek,

There has been no greater champion for American ranchers than President Donald J. Trump. In addition to issuing four Executive Orders, President Trump has directed over 40 administrative actions to support ranchers, cattle markets, and the American beef supply. Consistent with the policy directed by the President's most recent September 4th, 2026, Executive Order, "Supporting America's Ranchers," the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is strongly encouraging states to delist gray and Mexican wolves from any state-specific lists of protected species, or maintain delisted status if your state has already acted.

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Secretary

United States Department of Agriculture



Secretary Brooke L. Rollins

October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE GAVIN NEWSOM

Governor

State of California

1021 O Street, Suite 9000

Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom,

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Brooke L. Rollins
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture



Secretary Brooke L. Rollins

October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE TONY EVERS

Governor

State of Wisconsin

P.O. Box 7863

Madison, WI 53707

Dear Governor Evers,

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Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture



Secretary Brooke L. Rollins

October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE BRAD LITTLE

Governor

State of Idaho

State Capitol, P.O. Box 83720

Boise, ID 83720

Dear Governor Little,

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We appreciate your partnership as USDA seeks to better address the threat of wolf predation to our nation's farmers and ranchers.

Sincerely,

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Brooke L. Rollins
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture



Secretary Brooke L. Rollins

October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE GRETCHEN WHITMER

Governor

State of Michigan

P.O. Box 30013

Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Governor Whitmer,

There has been no greater champion for American ranchers than President Donald J. Trump. In addition to issuing four Executive Orders, President Trump has directed over 40 administrative actions to support ranchers, cattle markets, and the American beef supply. Consistent with the policy directed by the President's most recent September 4th, 2026, Executive Order, "Supporting America's Ranchers," the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is strongly encouraging states to delist gray and Mexican wolves from any state-specific lists of protected species, or maintain delisted status if your state has already acted.

Wolf presence and predation events continue to raise costs for U.S. ranchers through a variety of factors, including management expenses, calf losses, and reduced weights. Studies have estimated the highest calf loss levels from wolf predation could contribute to a net farm income loss of 34% per year⁶. With our nation's cattle herd numbers currently experiencing a 75-year low, our ranchers cannot afford to lose cattle due to wolf predation. Wolves also present a major threat to other grazing livestock, including sheep. This is why we implore you to continue working with the Department on parallel actions to mitigate wolf predation and protect U.S. ranchers from further devastating losses, including lethally taking wolves where appropriate.

Federally, both the first and second Trump Administrations have pursued actions with respect to the gray and Mexican wolf and the Endangered Species Act (ESA). While we await an updated federal decision on delisting pending litigation, states can take action to ensure the best possible outcomes and coordination with impacted producers to make management decisions based on local factors with local communities in mind. Many state-based plans, including population

⁶ Munch, D. (2025, July 7). *Wolves and the West: The Cost of Coexistence*. American Farm Bureau Federation.

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Brooke L. Rollins
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture



Secretary Brooke L. Rollins

October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE MARK GORDON

Governor

State of Wyoming

State Capitol Building, Room 124

Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Governor Gordon,

There has been no greater champion for American ranchers than President Donald J. Trump. In addition to issuing four Executive Orders, President Trump has directed over 40 administrative actions to support ranchers, cattle markets, and the American beef supply. Consistent with the policy directed by the President's most recent September 4th, 2026, Executive Order, "Supporting America's Ranchers," the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is strongly encouraging states to delist gray and Mexican wolves from any state-specific lists of protected species, or maintain delisted status if your state has already acted.

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Brooke L. Rollins
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture



Secretary Brooke L. Rollins

October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

Governor

State of New Mexico

490 Old Santa Fe Trail, Room 400

Santa Fe, NM 87501

Dear Governor Grisham,

There has been no greater champion for American ranchers than President Donald J. Trump. In addition to issuing four Executive Orders, President Trump has directed over 40 administrative actions to support ranchers, cattle markets, and the American beef supply. Consistent with the policy directed by the President's most recent September 4th, 2026, Executive Order, "Supporting America's Ranchers," the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is strongly encouraging states to delist gray and Mexican wolves from any state-specific lists of protected species, or maintain delisted status if your state has already acted.

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Brooke L. Rollins
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture



Secretary Brooke L. Rollins

October 12, 2026

THE HONORABLE MIKE DUNLEAVY

Governor

State of Alaska

P.O. Box 110001

Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

There has been no greater champion for American ranchers than President Donald J. Trump. In addition to issuing four Executive Orders, President Trump has directed over 40 administrative actions to support ranchers, cattle markets, and the American beef supply. Consistent with the policy directed by the President's most recent September 4th, 2026, Executive Order, "Supporting America's Ranchers," the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is strongly encouraging states to delist gray and Mexican wolves from any state-specific lists of protected species, or maintain delisted status if your state has already acted.

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