



National Gray Wolf Delisting Public Hearing

What to Expect & How to Prepare



Sacramento Training Call

Thursday, November 21st

6:30 to 7:30 pm PT

Call in Number: 1-800-356-8278

Access Code: 585948



Road Map

- What is a public hearing and why should you attend?
- What to expect?
- How to prepare?
- Hearing details



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What is a Public Hearing?

- An opportunity for the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to hear from the public directly
- Provides another way to offer official comments (other than in writing)
- Oral testimony becomes part of the official record



If not you, then who?

This is your opportunity to share your passion and opinion
with key decision makers.

Always Remember —your voice does make a difference!



© David Bolin

© Bill Keeting



What to Expect?



- Speak directly to a panel of 3-5 federal officials and biologists
- Testimony will be recorded
- You will not be able to ask questions of the panel while testifying
- Address the panel, not the audience
- Strict three-minute time limit



What to Expect?

Who else will be there?

- Fellow wolf supporters
- Press and Media
- Supporters of the wolf delisting



It's important to be civil and professional
in your comments and actions

Those supporting the delisting of wolves may be vocal and loud – don't let them distract you from giving your important comments and **do not engage them.**



How to Prepare: Before the Hearing

It's essential for FWS to HEAR why you want wolves protected and restored to their historic habitat



© Mike Wheeler

Most important: Use your own words!

- Use Defenders' talking points to get started, but...
- Don't use all of the talking points
- Write out your testimony and submit it at the hearing
- You will only have three minutes



How to Prepare: Before the Hearing

A few more tips

- Start with the statement that you oppose the FWS proposal to delist the gray wolf
- Explain why you want wolves to retain protections under the ESA
- Personalize your testimony
- You don't need to include background information on wolf recovery

© Jim Luerssen/Defenders of Wildlife



© Marcy Moore



How to Prepare: Before the Hearing

Practice your testimony at home to make sure you are within the time limit



The panel will ask you to stop once you've reached the time limit.



Tips for Testifying in Person

- Speak slowly and clearly
- Make eye contact with the panel
- Stay focused in your message
- Be respectful of the hearing officers and others while they are testifying
- It's okay to be nervous!



The Day of the Hearing

Wear a gray colored t-shirt to show your pro-wolf support

Come to our pep-rally to:

- meet fellow wolf activists
- hear from community leaders, activists, and wolf advocates
- get last minute information and updates



The Day of the Hearing

Wear a gray colored t-shirt to show your pro-wolf support

Please arrive by **4:00pm** for our rally and to sign up to testify.



There is a lot of interest in this issue, and we want to make sure our voices are heard.



Sacramento, CA

Friday, November 22nd

- **Hearing Location**

Marriott Courtyard Sacramento Cal Expo
Golden State Ballroom
1782 Tribute Road
Sacramento, CA 95815

- **Rally Location**

Outside Fairfield Inn next to the Marriott
1780 Tribute Rd
Sacramento, CA 95815



Rally: 4-5pm

Sign-up to testify: 5-6pm

Public Hearing: 6-8:30 pm



Questions?

