

TIMELINE



VOTE NO! ON PROPOSALS 1 & 2

- January 2012 • After nearly 50 years, Michigan wolves were removed from federal protection. The wolf population was estimated at 687 wolves.
- December 2012 • In the waning hours of a lame-duck session, Michigan legislators pushed through legislation that named the wolf as a game species --allowing for a hunting and/or trapping season to be set. It was signed by Gov. Snyder and became law.
- January 2013 • A wide variety of stakeholders came together to form Keep Michigan Wolves Protected (KMWP). This coalition of conservation groups, animal welfare organizations, Native American tribes, wildlife biologists, faith groups, veterinarians, hunters, farmers, and concerned Michigan citizens set out to gather at least 161,305 valid signatures in just 67 days in an effort to ask the voters of Michigan to veto this legislation and return protections to the still-recovering wolf population.
- March 2013 • Keep Michigan Wolves Protected submitted over 250,000 signatures to the Secretary of State. Once certified, this would allow people to vote on the wolf hunt. Michigan's wolf population was estimated at 658.
- May 2013 • In a contemptuous move to circumvent voters, politicians pass a second bill that gives power to open a wolf hunt to the politically-appointed Natural Resources Commission (NRC). The very next day the NRC has a hearing and begins the process of adding wolves back to the list of game species should the referendum be successful.
 - The Board of Canvassers certifies the signatures submitted by KMWP, and as a result a stay is put on the law that allowed wolves to be hunted until the voters can weigh in. This hold proves to be very brief.
- July 2013 • Using their newly-granted power, and despite testimony of leading wolf biologists opposing it, the NRC once again designates the wolf as a game species and sets a wolf hunting season and quota for the fall of 2013. The lone member of the NRC with an advanced degree in natural resources management votes no on both items.
- July 2013 • In response to the legislature's arrogant move to circumvent voters and render the referendum on the wolf hunting moot, Keep Michigan Wolves Protected begins collecting signatures on a 2nd referendum. This referendum would restore voter's ability to weigh in on not just wolves, but almost any protected animal the NRC may wish to add to the list of game species to be hunted and trapped for sport.
- October 2013 • While signatures were still being gathered on the 2nd referendum, Michigan's first wolf hunt in almost 50 years begins. 22 wolves are killed in this first hunt.
- November 2013 • A new group called "Citizens for Professional Wildlife Management," made up of trophy hunting interests and endorsed by the very legislators who sponsored the laws designating the wolf as a game species and allowing the NRC to designate game species, begins gathering signatures on a new initiative. Called the "Scientific Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act," the initiative recycles language from the second law allowing the NRC to designate game species, thus allowing the wolf hunt to continue. This group plans to hand the initiative to the legislature for quick passage rather than letting it go to the ballot for a citizen vote.
 - An investigation by Mlive.com revealed that false or incomplete data was used to justify the need for a wolf hunt. (http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2013/11/michigans_wolf_hunt_how_half_t.html)
- March 2014 • Keep Michigan Wolves Protected submits signatures for its 2nd referendum. Michigan's wolf population is now estimated at 636.
- May 2014 • The Board of Canvassers certifies signatures submitted by KMWP for its 2nd referendum.
 - The Board of Canvassers certifies signatures submitted by Citizens for Professional Wildlife Management
- August 2014 • The Citizens for Professional Wildlife Management initiative passes both chambers of the legislature and will go into effect in the spring of 2015. However, Keep Michigan Wolves Protected announces plans to sue to knock out the unconstitutional initiative in court.
- November 2014 • Voters reject Proposal 1 and Proposal 2 in the General Election, stating unequivocally that they do not want trophy hunting or trapping of wolves and they do not want to cede authority to an unelected group of political appointees.
- 2014/2015 • Legal challenge planned to overturn the unconstitutional Scientific Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act.

info@keepwolvesprotected.com 517.993.5201 www.keepwolvesprotected.com

Paid for with regulated funds by the committee to Keep Michigan Wolves Protected, 5859 W. Saginaw Hwy. #273, Lansing, MI 48917