



2019 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

TOP PRIORITY:

Remove the automatic and reckless wolf trophy hunt

SUPPORT HOUSE FILE 1327, AUTHORED BY REPRESENTATIVES FISCHER, BECKER-FINN, DEHN

SUPPORT SENATE FILE 927, AUTHORED BY SENATORS EATON, WIGER, HAWJ, ISAACSON, DIBBLE

This past month the U.S. Department of Interior began its rule-making process to remove federal Endangered Species Act protections for wolves throughout the United States. If the federal delisting effort is successful, existing Minnesota statute would authorize the DNR to prescribe a recreational hunting and trapping season on wolves. Last time Minnesota gray wolves lost federal protections in 2012, the state legislature hastily enacted a trophy hunting and trapping season without even determining whether the wolf population could tolerate losing those federal protections.

Howling For Wolves supports legislation to repeal the wolf trophy hunt in Minnesota and protect wild wolves for future generations.

ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES:

Require permission to leave traps on private land

SUPPORT HOUSE FILE 880, AUTHORED BY REPRESENTATIVES WAZLAWIK, BENNETT, DAVNIE, BECKER-FINN, MARIANI, BERNARDY, FREIBERG, YOUAKIM, HORNSTEIN, BIEMAN

SUPPORT SENATE FILE 842, AUTHORED BY SENATORS HOUSLEY, SIMONSON, PRATT, HOFFMAN, MARTY

If approved, Minnesota will be the 23rd state that requires trappers obtain clear, written permission to set traps on someone else's property. Currently, Minnesota law allows trapping on private property without the landowner's permission. Only agricultural land or land adequately posted with "no trespassing" signs are exempt from trapping access. If signs are missing or not seen, traps can be set legally without the property owner's knowledge or permission. Wisconsin has required permission to hunt and trap on private land since 1995.

Howling For Wolves supports requiring written permission to trap on private property.

Renew funding for wolf-livestock conflict prevention grants for Minnesota farmers

SUPPORT HOUSE FILE 1630, AUTHORED BY REPRESENTATIVES TABKE, POSTON, POPPE, ECKLUND, BECKER-FINN

SUPPORT SENATE FILE 1582, AUTHORED BY SENATORS RUUD, JOHNSON, EKEN, WEBER, TOMASSONI

In 2017, a grant program through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture passed into law and now reimburses farmers and ranchers for equipment, guard animals, and other related costs of working to prevent wolf-livestock conflicts. This pilot project has earned the support of the agricultural community and made Minnesota eligible for federal matching dollars. Nonlethal methods include guard animals, fencing, shelters, lights, and carcass removal, and have been shown to reduce wolf-livestock conflicts.

Howling For Wolves supports renewing state funding for effective nonlethal methods for farmers.