

Did you know?

Wolves are currently protected by the federal Endangered Species Act. This law protects plants, animals, birds, and insects in danger of going extinct. Wolves still need this law to protect them for future generations.

Wolves are shy and stay away from humans. Real wolves are not like the fairy tales of Little Red Riding Hood or The Three Little Pigs, wolves are actually very shy and stay away from humans.

Gray wolves are also known as timber wolves. Their scientific name is *Canis Lupus*.

Not all gray wolves are gray! Wolves can also be white, black, brown, or red-colored.

A wolf's sense of smell is 100 times greater than a human's and can smell you from very far away! Many people never see a wolf in the wild. Wolves can probably smell people first and choose to stay away.

Wolf packs are a lot like human families. Packs are made up of parents and their children, just like human families. The wolf packs works together to hunt, take care of the pups, and defend each other. A pack of three generations of a wolf family was videotaped in Northern Minnesota.

Wolves communicate through howls. Wolves howling helps them know where other wolves are located. Wolves howl to each other and with each other like when they rally together before moving as a pack to go hunting.

Wolves help keep forests and streams healthy for all wildlife and plants. Wisconsin forest plants grew back when wolves came back to Wisconsin. When wolves live in forests, the trees and plants grow more because wolves change the feeding behavior of the deer. More trees and plants create healthier rivers and streams because the soil will stay in place with their roots. Taller trees and cleaner rivers let more animals live like birds and fish. When one kind of animal, such as a wolf, plays such an important role on other wildlife—they are called a keystone species.

The biggest threat to wolves is humans. Every year, humans destroy more and more forests where wolves live. Some humans want wolves to disappear forever and they even kill them, but most people want them to live and thrive.

For more information on how YOU can protect wolves, take action at www.howlingforwolves.org.