

Wildlife Adoption and Gift Center

Downloadable Certificate Instructions

Your Certificate of Adoption and Animal Fact Sheet are **below the instruction page**.

This digital download allows you to see your adoption certificate and factsheet immediately.

Your adoption kit will follow via postal mail.

PERSONALIZATION

To personalize the certificate, please use the following steps on the following page:

1. On page below, click your cursor in the "Enter Name Here" field on Certificate
2. Delete the text "Enter Name Here."
3. Type in your name or the name of your adoption gift recipient.

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN TO FIND CERTIFICATE & FACTSHEET

Certificate OF Adoption

This certificate acknowledges that a symbolic adoption of a

Wolf

has been made for

to help protect imperiled animals
and preserve their vital habitats

*On behalf of all of us at Defenders of Wildlife,
thank you for your caring support for these special
wild animals who so desperately need our protection.*



Rodger Schlickeisen, President



Gray Wolf

Canis lupus

Did You Know?

Wolves have a complex communication system ranging from barks and whines to growls and howls.

The wolf is the largest member of the canine family. Gray wolves range in color from grizzled gray or black to all-white. As the ancestor of the domestic dog, the gray wolf resembles German shepherds or malamutes. Wolves are making a comeback in the Great Lakes, Northern Rockies and Southwestern United States.

POPULATION

There are an estimated 7,000 to 11,200 wolves in Alaska and more than 5,000 in the lower 48 states. Around the world there are an estimated 200,000 in 57 countries, compared to up to two million in earlier times.

RANGE

Wolves were once common throughout all of North America but were killed off in most areas of the United States by the mid-1930s. Today their range has been reduced to Canada, Alaska, the Great Lakes, Northern Rockies and New Mexico / Arizona.

Thanks to the reintroduction of wolves in 1995, Yellowstone National Park is one of the best places to see and hear wolves in their native habitat.

BEHAVIOR

Wolves live, travel and hunt in packs of four to seven animals. Packs include the mother and father wolves, called the alphas, their pups and several other subordinate or young animals. The alpha male and female are pack leaders responsible for tracking and hunting prey, choosing den sites and establishing the pack's territory. Wolves develop close relationships and strong social bonds. They often demonstrate deep affection for their family and may even sacrifice themselves to protect the family unit. Wolves have a complex communication system ranging from barks and whines to growls and howls.

REPRODUCTION

The gray wolf mates in January or February. Gestation is 63 days for the litters of four to seven pups. Pups are born blind and defenseless. The pack cares for the pups until they mature at about 10 months of age.

THREATS

The most common cause of death for wolves is conflict with people over livestock losses, game populations and other issues. While wolf predation on livestock is fairly uncommon, wolves that do prey on them are often killed to protect the livestock. Some livestock owners are developing non-lethal methods to reduce the chances of a wolf attacking their livestock. These methods include fencing livestock, installing lighting, alarm systems, and removing dead or dying livestock that may attract carnivores like wolves.

Predator control programs such as in Alaska and as proposed in the Northern Rockies are a serious threat. Another serious threat is human encroachment into wolf territory, which leads to habitat loss for wolves and their prey species.

Height

26 - 32 inches at the shoulder

Length

4.5 - 6.5 feet from nose to tip of tail

Weight

55 - 130 lbs.; Males are typically heavier and taller than the females

Lifespan

7 - 8 years in the wild, but some have lived 10 years or more

Diet

Ungulates (large hoofed mammals) like elk, deer, moose and caribou. Also known to eat beaver, rabbits and other small prey. Wolves are also scavengers and often eat animals that have died due to other causes like starvation and disease.

Your support helps Defenders of Wildlife save wolves by:

- Supporting our work to end aerial gunning in Alaska – and prevent programs like it from spreading to the Greater Yellowstone and Northern Rockies region and other states.
- Enabling us to fight to keep vital federal protections for wolves in the Greater Yellowstone / Northern Rockies region.
- Supporting our work with ranchers to prevent needless losses to livestock and wolf populations.
- Allowing us to post rewards and help bring to justice people who illegally kill wolves.



DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE

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www.defenders.org
www.WildlifeAdoption.org

For more information including videos, pictures, and sounds of the gray wolf and other wildlife, visit our website at www.defenders.org/animals.