

Wolves & Wildlife

Wolves only bring “balance” to an ecosystem for a fleeting moment, before they ultimately decimate their prey base of elk, moose, and deer.

Wolves are a significant factor in the decline of big game herds

Wolves were introduced into Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho in 1995/1996. In the 1990's the West Yellowstone elk herd was estimated at 19,000 head and had plummeted to ~4,900 in 2015. Idaho's Lolo elk herd was ~13,000 head in 1994, and was reduced to ~1,945 by 2016.

“I have spent the last 13 years filming in Yellowstone, I flew the first privately funded, independent aerial survey of the northern Yellowstone elk herd and we went from 19,000 elk to what my count showed as 938 animals, zero bulls. The important part of that scenario is that the fish and game and the feds downplayed it the entire time....What we can observe here (Yellowstone) is that 90 bachelor bulls were killed in 30 days by 11 wolves... They do as much killing for sport as they do for food.” [Scott Rockholm, CEO Save Western Wildlife - RFD-TV Rural America Live - January 2019]

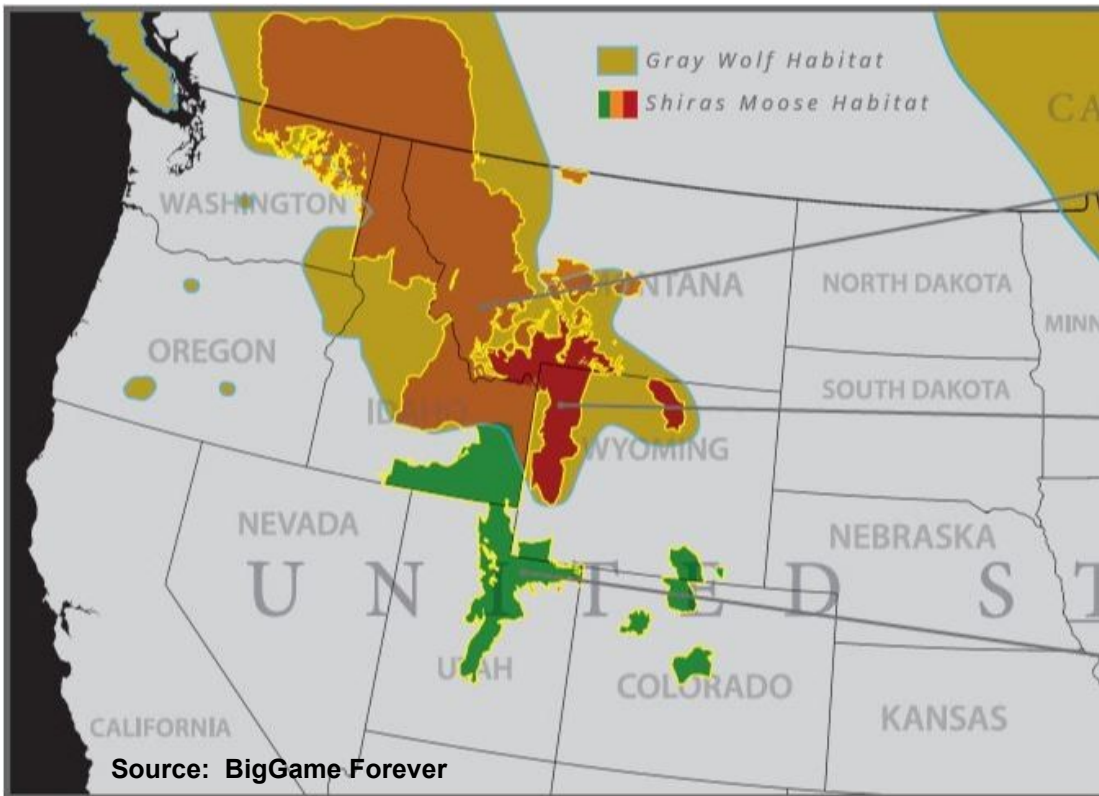
“The reality is the shiras moose is on its way to extinction, the only place it is found is where the wolves are not found, such as in Colorado and Utah, at other locations it is a goner.” [Dr. Valerius Geist, Biologist, Professor Emeritus, University of Calgary - RFD-TV Rural America Live - January 2019]



A single wolf kills an estimated 16 –22 elk per year.

In 2015, the Northern Rocky Mountain wolf population was estimated at more than 1,700 wolves

Colorado Wool Growers Association
Coloradosheep.org



Shiras moose population compared to wolf habitat since the introduction of wolves in the 1990's



Shiras moose population has decreased by 50-75 percent in these areas



Shiras moose population has decreased up to 90 percent in these areas

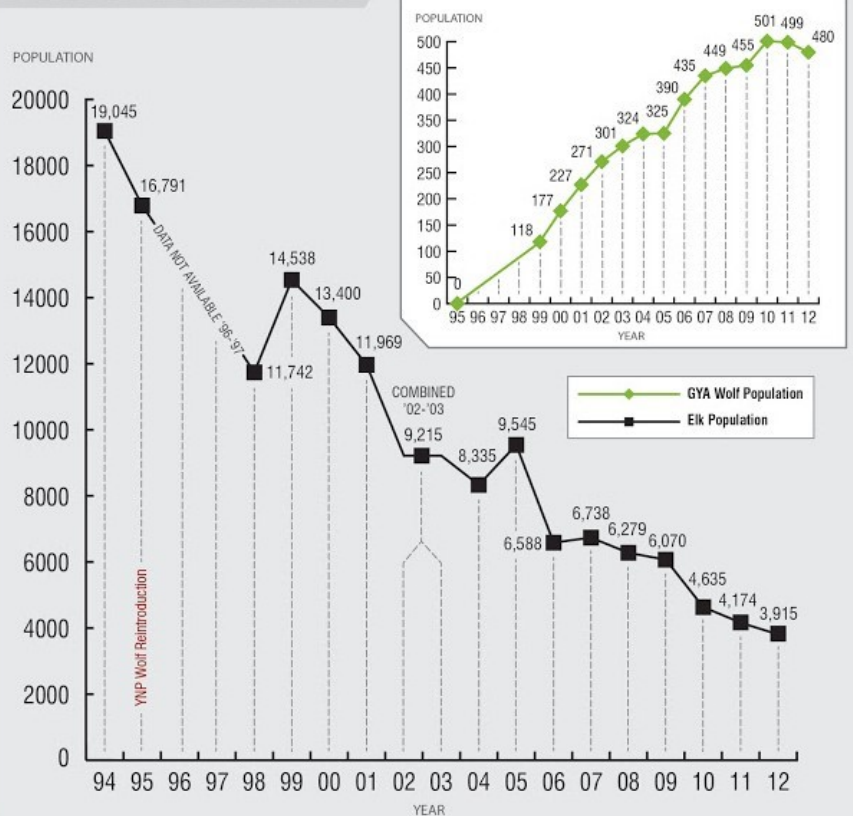


Shiras moose population is stable or increasing outside of wolf habitat



GYA Wolf and Elk Population Trends: 1994 - present

Source: US Fish & Wildlife Service



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