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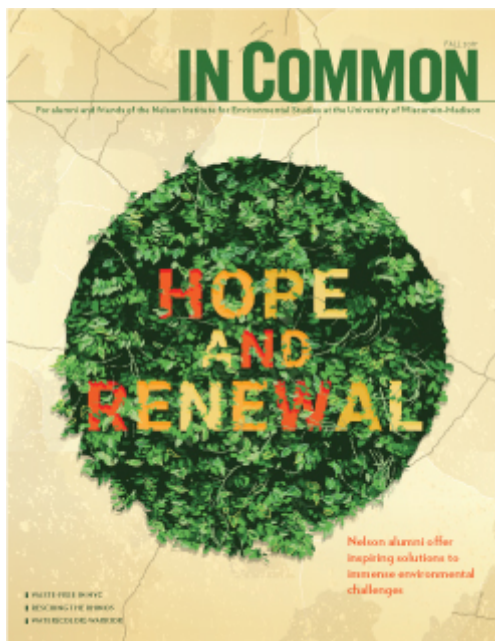


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# Professor Adrian Treves reviews the new proposal to end federal protections for the gray wolf

May 31, 2019 | by [BEKAH MCBRIDE](#)

In March 2019, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) announced plans to [end federal protections for the gray wolf](#) throughout the lower 48 states. As a part of this proposal, the USFWS sought expert advice via peer reviews. Adrian Treves, a [Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies](#) professor and founder of the [Carnivore Coexistence Lab](#), served as a reviewer, submitting a 48-page evaluation of the proposed rule and draft biological [report](#).

In his evaluation, Treves focused on human-caused mortality faced by wolves and the effects of illegal killing in particular. These topics have been the focus of his research for over a decade culminating in articles in [Science](#) and [Proceedings of the Royal Society B](#). Additionally, Treves noted gaps in the proposed rule and outlined the importance of evaluating all inferences and conclusions in light of only the best available scientific information.

“The USFWS has tried to remove federal protections from gray wolves in our region or nationwide several times before. These efforts keep stalling in courts or procedurally, partly



because the science has been disputed,” said Treves. Adding, “I appreciated the opportunity to serve as a peer reviewer in this round.”

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