



**REPRESENTATIVE GREG BARRETO
OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE DISTRICT 58**

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Ratification of ODFW Grey Wolf Decision Passes Oregon Senate

Salem, OR - The Oregon Senate yesterday approved HB 4040-A, which reaffirms the decision of the ODF&W Commission to delist the grey wolf from the list of endangered species.

Gray wolves (*Canis lupus*) were reintroduced in the continental United States in the mid-1990s with the capture of wolves in Canada and their release in central Idaho and Yellowstone National Park. Since that time, wolves have migrated into northeastern Oregon, as well as Jackson, Klamath and Lake Counties. The first documented wolf pups born in Oregon occurred in 2008.

The gray wolf was listed under the Oregon Endangered Species Act until November 10, 2015 when the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission voted to delist the wolf. HB 4040-A simply ratifies and approves the decision to remove *Canis lupus* from the state list of threatened and endangered species.

“This bill is not about pitting one group against another, but allowing a plan, a contract, an agreement that that was put together after years of negotiation and compromise, then agreed upon by all parties involved, and then implemented over 10 years ago,” said Rep. Greg Barreto. “Oregon’s wolf population is growing faster than 36% per year and is ahead of earlier projections of growth. It is time for Oregon to allow ODFW to continue with the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan as it was intended.”

“I hope that Governor Brown recognizes the longstanding and broad consensus brought in this legislation and signs HB4040-A” said Barreto. “Allowing ODFW to proceed with the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan as it has been implemented and worked through to produce a positive conclusion to what has been a bipartisan compromise.”

The bill passed the Senate with a vote of 17-11 and will now be sent to the Governor’s desk to await her signature.

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