

2012- Some Perspective on Delisting. Message by Peter Bennett to Cturtle.

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**From:** Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation <CTURTLE@LISTS.UFL.EDU> on behalf of Peter Bennett <honu@TURTLES.ORG>

**Sent:** Friday, September 21, 2012 5:56:55 AM

**To:** CTURTLE@LISTS.UFL.EDU <CTURTLE@LISTS.UFL.EDU>

**Subject:** [CTURTLE] Some perspective on delisting

I've been looking at the delisting the gray wolf as a way of seeing what might be in store for the honu, because I suspected that the process was challenged and was not simply an announcement of status change. In fact, the background shows that due to court challenges and rulings, it was not until five years after the initial delisting decision that the change was finally made effective. You can read the full story in the Federal Register:

[http://www.fws.gov/midwest/wolf/delisting/pdf/FR\\_grwoWGLDelist28Dec2011.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/midwest/wolf/delisting/pdf/FR_grwoWGLDelist28Dec2011.pdf)

The reason I mention this here is to point to a particular FWS response to certain comments received during the process, because it bears directly on a sentiment that has been expressed on this list. Page 17 of the PDF linked above includes this:

[Begin quote]

(7) Comment: A number of comments expressed opposition to delisting, making statements such as “wolves should always be protected” by the Act and “why do wolves have to be delisted.”

Our Response: The Act provides the Federal Government with authority to protect and recover threatened and endangered species. When a species has been recovered to the extent that it no longer meets the definition of “threatened” or “endangered,” the Act provides that it should be removed from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants and its management be returned to the appropriate States and tribes (in cases where treaties identify such authorities for tribes). The goal of the Act is to recover listed species and then to delist them when they no longer qualify as threatened or endangered, thereby allowing the Service to focus its efforts on the many other species that

