

PLEASE NOTE: The DNR is randomizing the order of the questions on the survey for each person. Please be sure to fully read the questions on your survey and be sure they match the order below. All the questions are accounted for in this guide, but MAY appear in a slightly different order for you.

At the end of this guide, we have talking points that you can use to fill out the comments section

Question (highlighted questions mean they are very important or can be tricky/unclear)	Answer
1. It is important to maintain a wolf population in Wisconsin	Strongly Agree
2. There were an estimated 1,200 wolves in Wisconsin in the winter of 2019/20. In the future I would like to have _____ wolves in Wisconsin.	More
3. Compared to today, I would like wolves to occupy _____ territory in Wisconsin.	More
How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about wolves?	
Having wolves in Wisconsin is important so that future generations can enjoy them.	Strongly Agree
Wolves in Wisconsin are an important part of the ecosystem.	Strongly Agree
Wolves have a right to exist in Wisconsin.	Strongly Agree
Wolves contribute to the Wisconsin economy through tourism.	Neither agree nor disagree
Wolves provide value to Wisconsin through the opportunity to hunt or trap them.	Strongly Disagree
Having the opportunity to hear or see wolves in the wild is important to me.	Agree or Strongly Agree
Wolves are a symbol of the wilderness.	Agree or Strongly Agree
I have an emotional attachment to wolves.	Neither agree nor disagree*
I have a cultural connection with wolves.	
The potential for conflict between wolves and livestock and / or dogs is a concern to me.	See footnote ¹
I have changed the way I recreate (hunt, camp, hike, etc.) in response to the presence of wolves in the areas I recreate.	Disagree or Neither agree nor disagree*
I am concerned about the potential impacts of wolves on deer and elk. THIS QUESTION IS UNCLEAR- Is it asking about wolves' positive impacts on deer/elk in terms of CWD reduction/health of the herd? Or is it asking about concerns relating to perceived negative impacts on deer?	Neither agree nor disagree*

(*This question is improper and may be used to dismiss/marginalize rest of survey answers)

Question (highlighted questions mean they are very important or can be tricky to answer)	Answer
5. Overall, how would you describe your feelings about wolves in Wisconsin?	Very Favorable
Section 3. Wolf Management Plan	
Population monitoring: knowing how many wolves there are in WI and where they live	Very Important
Population management: wolf population objectives and strategies to reach those objectives	Slightly important or Very Important
Depredation conflicts: wolf depredation of livestock and dogs	Not at all important or Slightly important ² (see footnote)
Depredation compensation: reimbursement payments for animals killed or injured by wolves	Not at all important or Slightly important ² (see footnote)
Wolf advisory committee: the role of the partner / stakeholder advisory committee, which discusses a variety of wolf management issues and provides recommendations to the DNR	Moderately important or Very Important
Wolf hunting and trapping: regulated public harvest of wolves by licensed participants [Best to use Comments box below section to clarify whether you are concerned because you oppose Hunting/Trapping Seasons for wolves or approve of them.]	Unclear.
Impacts on deer and elk: wolf population impacts on deer and elk populations	Moderately important or Very Important*
Educational efforts on wolves: educational efforts on living with wolves, wolf influence on the ecosystem, and scientific research results.	Very Important
Cultural / Tribal perspectives: cultural significance of wolves in Wisconsin	Very Important
Cultural / Tribal perspectives: cultural significance of wolves in Wisconsin	Very Important
If there are other important issues not listed above, please let us know in the space below:	Add 'suggested response'
7. Do you think there are circumstances when it is acceptable for wolves to be humanely killed through targeted removal in response to conflict with domestic animals or human safety?	Yes

²Regarding “regulated public harvest of wolves by licensed participants” -- Any interest I have relates to prohibiting or greatly reducing hunting and trapping of wolves.

Hound hunting wolves should be prohibited. Specific to “Depredation compensation”—Depredation payments should not be paid for hounds purposely put in harm’s way by hunters.

Question (highlighted questions mean they are very important or can be tricky to answer)	Answer
8. People may have various opinions on the regulated wolf hunting and trapping season in Wisconsin. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements about the wolf season in Wisconsin.	
The wolf population should be left to regulate itself.	Agree or Strongly Agree
Human safety should be a primary consideration in managing wolves [This is unsubstantiated and causes unfounded fear]	Neither agree nor disagree
The wolf population needs to be managed like other wildlife species.	Disagree or Neither agree nor disagree
Wolves will become endangered again due to trapping and hunting.	Agree or Strongly Agree
Hunters should have the opportunity to legally pursue and harvest a wolf as long as it is sustainable.	Disagree (recreational wolf hunting lacks scientific support and justification)
9. Which statement best describes your opinion about hunting and trapping wolves?	I oppose all hunting and trapping of wolves.*
10. If you have any other comments specific to the wolf management plan update, please comment	Use talking points to write your own!
<p>11. What are the three most important factors you believe the DNR should consider for the fall 2021 wolf hunt season?</p> <p>Any of the following (and add your own points!):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sustainability and health of the wolf population ● The biological impact of the February 2021 wolf season ● Cultural and / or tribal significance of wolves ● Ecological role of wolves in the ecosystem ● Other: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Negative impacts of hound hunting on wolves, other wildlife, and the rights of private property owners. Degradation of “Fair chase” and hunting ethics—e.g. Use of ATV’s and snowmobiles in hunting, successive packs of “fresh dogs” over hours of pursuit, 24-hour hunting. Lack of on-the-ground monitoring by wardens and law enforcement for compliance. 	
12. Given your responses to the previous question, which management objective would you deem most appropriate for the 2021 Fall Wolf Season?	Increase wolf numbers (slightly or significantly)
13. If you would like to comment on the 2021 Fall Wolf Season, please do so here.	Use talking points

¹Factual context: Livestock-wolf conflicts in Wisconsin affect relatively few livestock operations, with those affected receiving compensation. Most conflicts with dogs arise from hound hunters releasing packs of unleashed GPS collared dogs into wolf caution areas. See, e.g., https://madison.com/ct/news/local/state-pays-scofflaws-for-dogs-killed-by-wolves-while-hunting-other-animals/article_1a704d56-3121-5720-aa27-7c89a693e4de.html.

|Helpful Talking Points for Comment Boxes|

- The impact of the February 2021 wolf hunt has not been properly analyzed. Until the impact of the over-kill and collateral impacts to packs and wolf pup survival can be studied, **no further hunts or trapping of wolves** should be allowed.
- The February wolf hunt remains a black eye on the State of Wisconsin.
- The poorly planned and rushed February hunt caused significant collateral damage to established packs during breeding season.
- The Fall 2021 wolf hunt quota must be limited to numbers commensurate with the Wisconsin elk hunt (10 animals or less) and curtail the numbers of hunters on the landscape to prevent another slaughter.
- The February 2021 wolf hunt did not honor the treaty, land, and heritage rights of Native tribes.
- Hunting wolves leads to dissolution of wolf packs and significantly compromises wolf pup survival.
- Livestock depredation is often used as a reason for why wolves should be hunted **BUT scientific studies and state agency data prove otherwise**. The vast majority of hunting takes place in core wolf habitat (large tracts of public land) where the likelihood of livestock conflicts is remote.
- Wolf management programs that include hunting and hunting with hounds are governed more by special interest groups than by the best available science or public will.
- There is no evidence of direct harm to humans by wolves. That wolves attack people is a myth.
- As apex predators, the wolves help to control the spread of CWD in the deer population and improve forest health and biodiversity.
- Opposition to Wolf Hunting is NOT a "hunter's rights" issue -- more and more hunters are speaking out AGAINST trophy hunting and trapping of wolves.
- **Hound hunters habitually violate the rights of Wisconsin private property owners by releasing unleashed packs of GPS collared hounds without regard for property lines.**
- Traps, snares, cable ties, and packs of hunting hounds create conflicts and pose dangers to other users of public lands their pets.
- Wolf depredation payments currently in place can adequately compensate ranchers and farmers. These payments should NOT be paid to hound hunters who purposely put their animals in harm's way.

- Pursuing wolves with ATVs, snowmobiles, and hounds—chasing the wolves to exhaustion—is unethical, cruel, and is not “fair chase” hunting.
- The Nicolet-Chequaumegon National Forest appears to be where most of the wolves live. With over 1.5 MILLION acres and low population density, it is not an area where livestock-wolf conflicts are a problem.
- I oppose paying depredations to hunters who purposely set their dogs upon wildlife like wolves, where violent confrontations are an inevitability. Depredation payments are “rewards” for animal abuse. That is wrong.
- I have changed the way I recreate in Wisconsin NOT because of wolves—but to avoid conflict, noise, disruption, and FEAR of hound hunters and their untethered hounds.
- Wisconsin is the ONLY state in the country to allow dogs to be used for hunting wolves, a barbaric practice that involves large groups of hunters releasing pack after pack of unleashed, GPS-collared dogs in pursuit of a wolf or wolf pack. The pursued wolf is often trailed for hours and across great distances before it succumbs to the pack of dogs and hunters.
- Wisconsin further is the ONLY state to allow the “training of dogs” to hunt wolves, a highly **disruptive, poorly regulated practice that is permitted THROUGHOUT the year**, interrupting wolves’ ability to breed, raise pups to maturity, and exist without harassment. These are NOT the type of hunting and training practices that reflect well on our state!