

NEWSLETTER

2 - MARCH 2026



LEGAL EUROPEAN UNION

- **Case T-634/25;** Gesellschaft zum Schutz der Wölfe e. V. (GzSdW), Appeal before the General Court of the European Union to annul Directive (EU) 2025/1237 on the downgrading of the wolf's protection status. Represented by: K. Kühn, lawyer. The applicant challenges the directive on five grounds, including infringement of essential procedural requirements, violation of Article 191 TFEU due to failure to consider scientific evidence, breach of the precautionary principle, failure to exercise discretion, and infringement of the principle of proportionality. **READ the Appeal:** <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX%3A62025TN0634&utm>
- **Case C-436/22;** Asociación para la Conservación y Estudio del Lobo Ibérico (ASCEL), Request for a preliminary ruling before the Court of Justice of the European Union concerning the interpretation of Article 14 of Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive) in relation to the hunting of wolves despite an "unfavourable-poor" conservation status. The Court held that EU law precludes national legislation allowing wolf hunting in such circumstances and requires Member States to rely on the most recent scientific data and the precautionary principle under Article 191(2) TFEU. **READ the Judgment:** https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:C_202405591
- **FERUS and ASPAS , victory of an administrative appeal against Hautes-Pyrénées: suspension of a wolf killing order** (December 2025) <https://www.ferus.fr/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/CE-loups-echelle-locale.pdf>

LETTERS

26 March 2026: NGOs PR on downlisting and mortality of wolves with data and references (note the list of logos is not complete) <https://greenimpact.it>

24 February 2026. 13 associations, including Green Impact, Pro Natura and Io non ho paura del lupo, send a letter to media outlets and journalists: "The wolf is only 'bad' in fairy tales: let's tell the truth together." <https://drive.google.com>

26 September 2025. Freundeskreis freilebender Wölfe e.V. writes to the European Commission: political pressure is distorting data to allow wolf hunting in Germany. <https://drive.google.com>

It is possible to find all the letters, including those from the previous newsletter, at the following link: <https://shorturl.at/N9cRD>

SCIENCE DIPLOMACY

Biological Conservation, 2026, Vol. 316, Article 111784

Assessing key demographic parameters and viability of a wolf population in a highly human-dominated landscape

Monia Nakamura, Pedro Monterroso, Helena Rio-Maior, Raquel Godinho, Francisco Álvares, José Vicente López-Bao, and Olivier Gimenez

Extract: Using long-term monitoring data (2007–2019) and an integrated population model, the study estimates key demographic parameters of wolves in a highly human-dominated landscape in northwestern Iberia. Results show a modest population growth rate (≈ 1.04), with adult survival (≈ 0.72) identified as the main factor driving population viability. Even small decreases in adult survival significantly increase extinction risk, highlighting the critical impact of anthropogenic mortality—particularly poaching and human–wildlife conflict—on wolf persistence, while variations in fecundity and pup survival play a comparatively minor role.

Read the full text: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320726000923#bb0075>

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- **Case T-634/24;** Green Impact and other Associations Appeal before the European Court of Justice (EUCJ) to annul the 2024 EU Council Decision proposing the Wolf downlisting at the Bern Convention. Represented by: L. D'Agostino, lawyer. **READ** the Appeal: https://greenimpact.it/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/OJ_C_202500922_EN_TXT.pdf
- **Discover** the list of Associations which contributed with an **act of intervention**: <https://greenimpact.it/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/2025-LUPI-Caso-Corte-UE.-Lista-Ricorrenti-e-Atto-di-intervento.pdf>
- **Case T-563/25;** Green Impact and other Associations, Appeal before the European Court of Justice (EUCJ) to annul the 2025 EU act of downlisting of the Wolf. Represented by: L. D'Agostino and M. Giovinazzo, lawyers. **READ** the Appeal: https://greenimpact.it/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/OJ_C_202505359_EN_TXT.pdf
- **Discover** the list of Associations which contributed with an **act of intervention**: <https://www.greenimpact.it/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/PDF-Appellants-Acts-of-Intervention.pdf>
- Three recent rulings of the **Court of Justice of the European Union** (Austria, Spain, Estonia) clarify that "favourable conservation status" under the Habitats Directive means **ensuring species can fulfil their ecological function**, not merely avoiding extinction. They also confirm that this ecological minimum standard must be **secured at national level** and cannot be lowered for socio-economic reasons. Discover more: <https://shorturl.at/K25aW>

EVENTS

- 2 April 2026: Wolf and wildlife management: beyond simplification, the importance of data - Italian language

The event brings together legal experts, scientists, and conservationists to discuss EU legislation, wolf mortality in Italy, habitat fragmentation, and coexistence challenges, followed by a screening of the documentary "The Wolf Within".
<https://greenimpact.it/it>
- 11 April 2026: Second "Wolf Saturday" in Baden-Württemberg – German language

An event organized by Naturschutzinitiative e.V. (NI), offering science-based insights and expert perspectives on wolf ecology and human-wolf coexistence, with a focus on fostering informed and objective discussion.

<https://naturschutzinitiative.de/aktuell/veranstaltungen/zweiter-wolf-samstag-in-baden-wuerttemberg/>

- 14 June 2026: The wolf has returned – and it is here to stay – German language

Part of the "Wolf Sundays" series organized by Naturschutzinitiative e.V. (NI), this open event offers science-based information and expert-led field insights on wolf ecology and peaceful coexistence, encouraging greater public understanding of the species.

<https://naturschutzinitiative.de/aktuell/veranstaltungen/der-wolf-ist-wieder-da-zurueck-um-zu-bleiben-8/>



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