

Mexican Gray Wolf

Scientific Name: *Canis lupus baileyi*

Class: Mammalia

Order: Carnivora

Family: Canidae



Smallest of the Gray Wolf subspecies, these animals are 54 to 66 inches in length from snout to tail, and their weight is 50 to 90 pounds (22 to 40 kg). Their coat is a varied mixture of tan, red, white, and black fur. They are generally light in color on their lower muzzle, chest, and underbelly, while their head, shoulders and back are darker in color.

Range

Their range was originally in Mexico and the Southwestern United States, but now they are only allowed to inhabit the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area in east-central Arizona and west-central New Mexico.

Habitat

They inhabit woods, scrub, and grassland.

Gestation

63 days

Litter

1-11 (average is 6)

Behavior

Mexican gray wolves are social animals and live in packs. Packs are complex social structures that include a breeding adult pair (the alpha male and female) and their offspring. Wolves within the pack make up a hierarchy of dominant and subordinate animals, which help them work together as a unit.

Reproduction

Pups are born blind and deaf with a keen sense of smell. The pack cares for the pups until they mature at about 10 months of age.

Wild Diet

Primarily elk, also deer, rabbit and other small mammals