

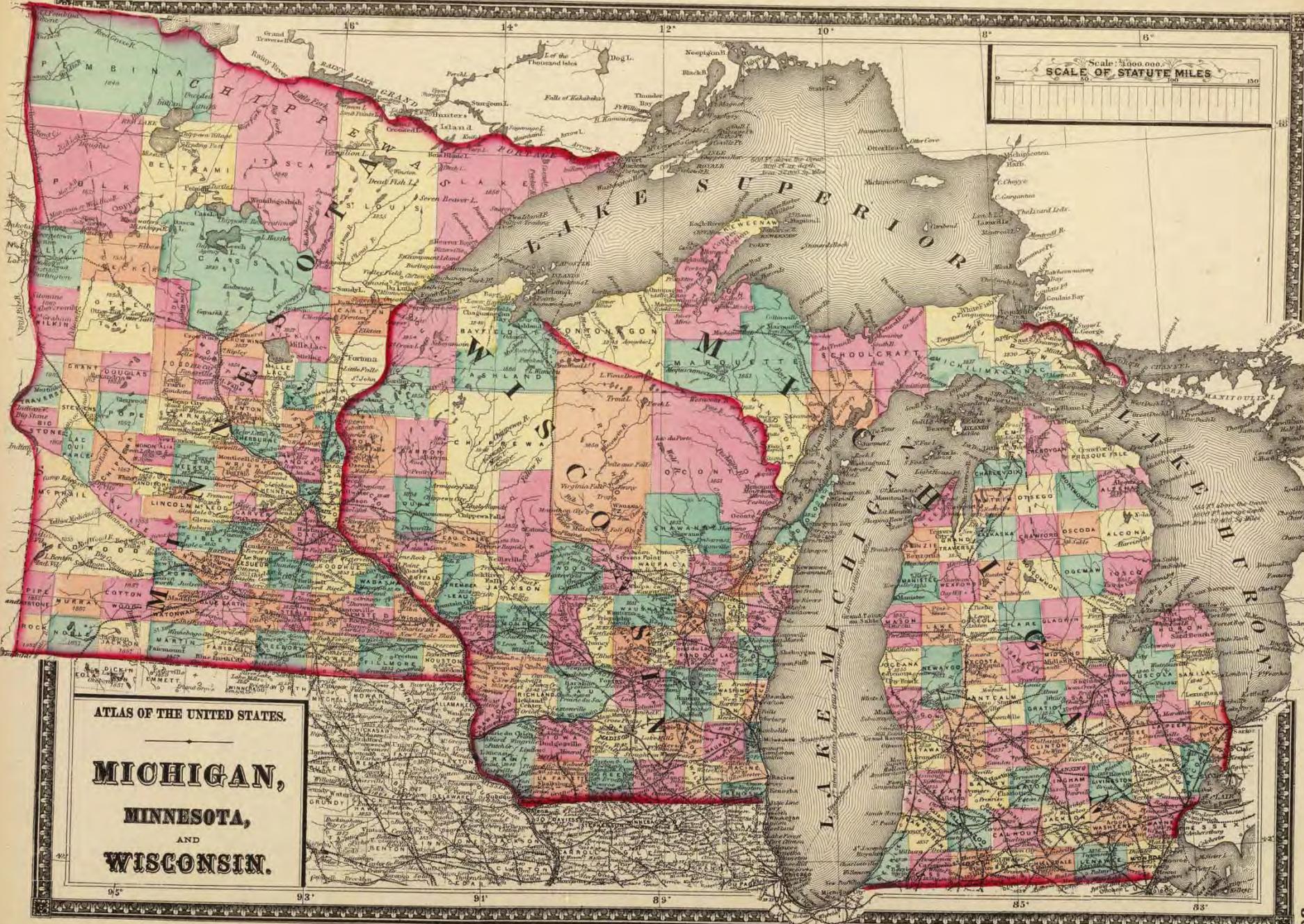
WOLVES OF THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES FROM RECOVERY TO MANAGEMENT



Dean E. Beyer, Jr.
Michigan DNR

David MacFarland
Wisconsin DNR

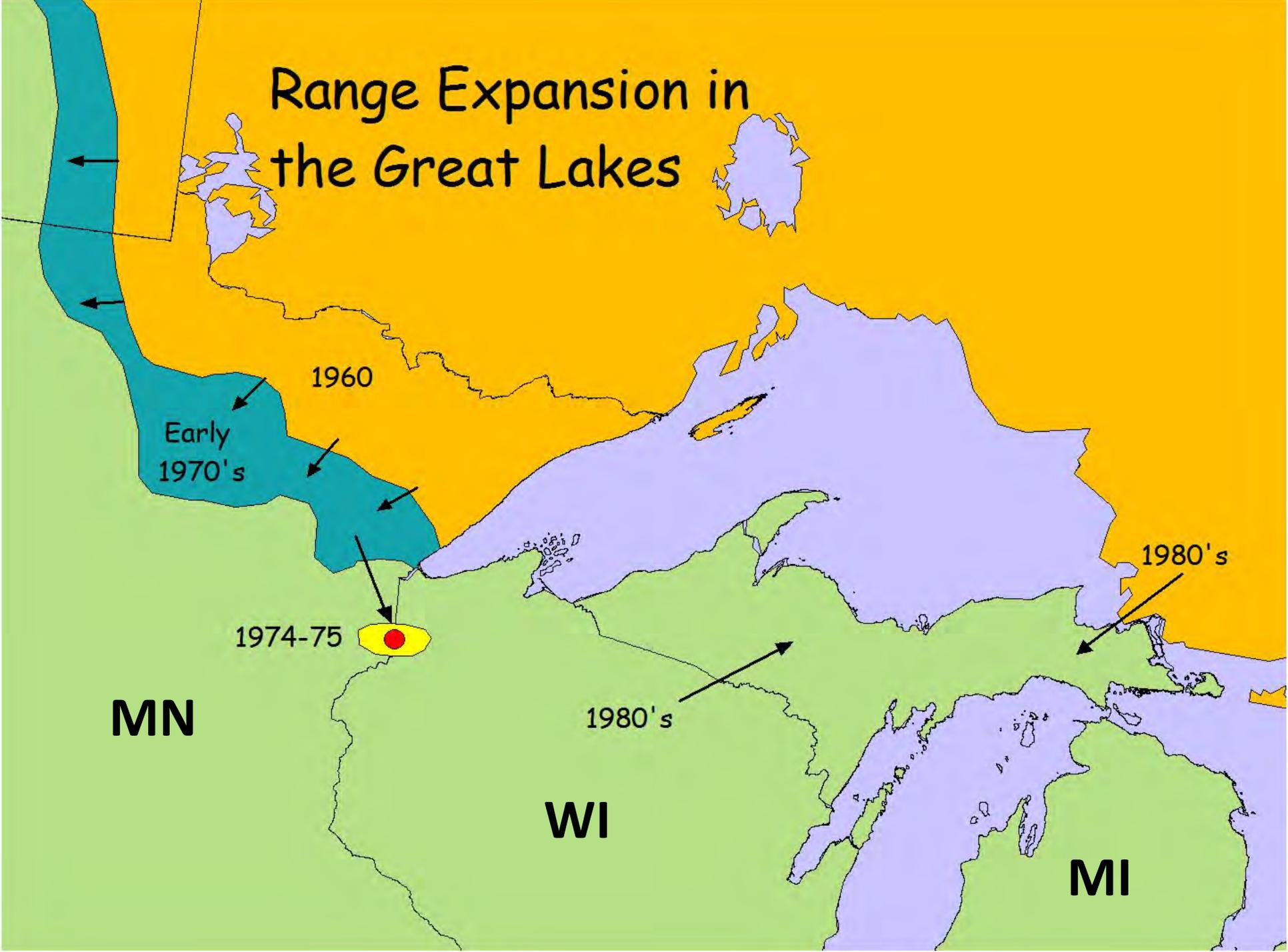
Daniel Stark
Minnesota DNR



ATLAS OF THE UNITED STATES.

MICHIGAN,
MINNESOTA,
AND
WISCONSIN.

Range Expansion in the Great Lakes



1960

Early
1970's

1974-75

1980's

1980's

MN

WI

MI

Federal Recovery Goals

- Delisting

- Minnesota population secure
- State plans in place
- Second population of 100 wolves in MI / WI for five consecutive years (1999)



Recovery Plan

For The

**EASTERN
TIMBER
WOLF**



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Twin Cities, Minnesota

Recovery Roller Coaster

- 1974 - 2003 – Endangered
- April 13, 2003 - January 31, 2005 – Threatened

Litigation

- Jan. 31, 2005 - March 12, 2007 – Endangered
- March, 12 2007 - Sept. 29, 2008 – Delisted

Litigation

- Sept. 29, 2008 - May 4, 2009 – Endangered
- May 4, 2009 - July 1, 2009 – Delisted

Litigation

- July 1, 2009 - January 26, 2012 – Endangered
- January 27, 2012 – Delisted

Litigation Pending



Timing/Paths to Wolf Harvesting



2013

Legislature

- Authorized hunt

NRC

- Quotas
- Permits
- Zones
- Season dates
- Legal means

DNR

- Implement plan



2011

Legislature

- Authorized hunt
- Season start date

DNR

- Quotas
- Permits
- Zones
- Season dates
- Legal means



2012

Legislature

- Authorized hunt
- Season dates
- Legal means

DNR

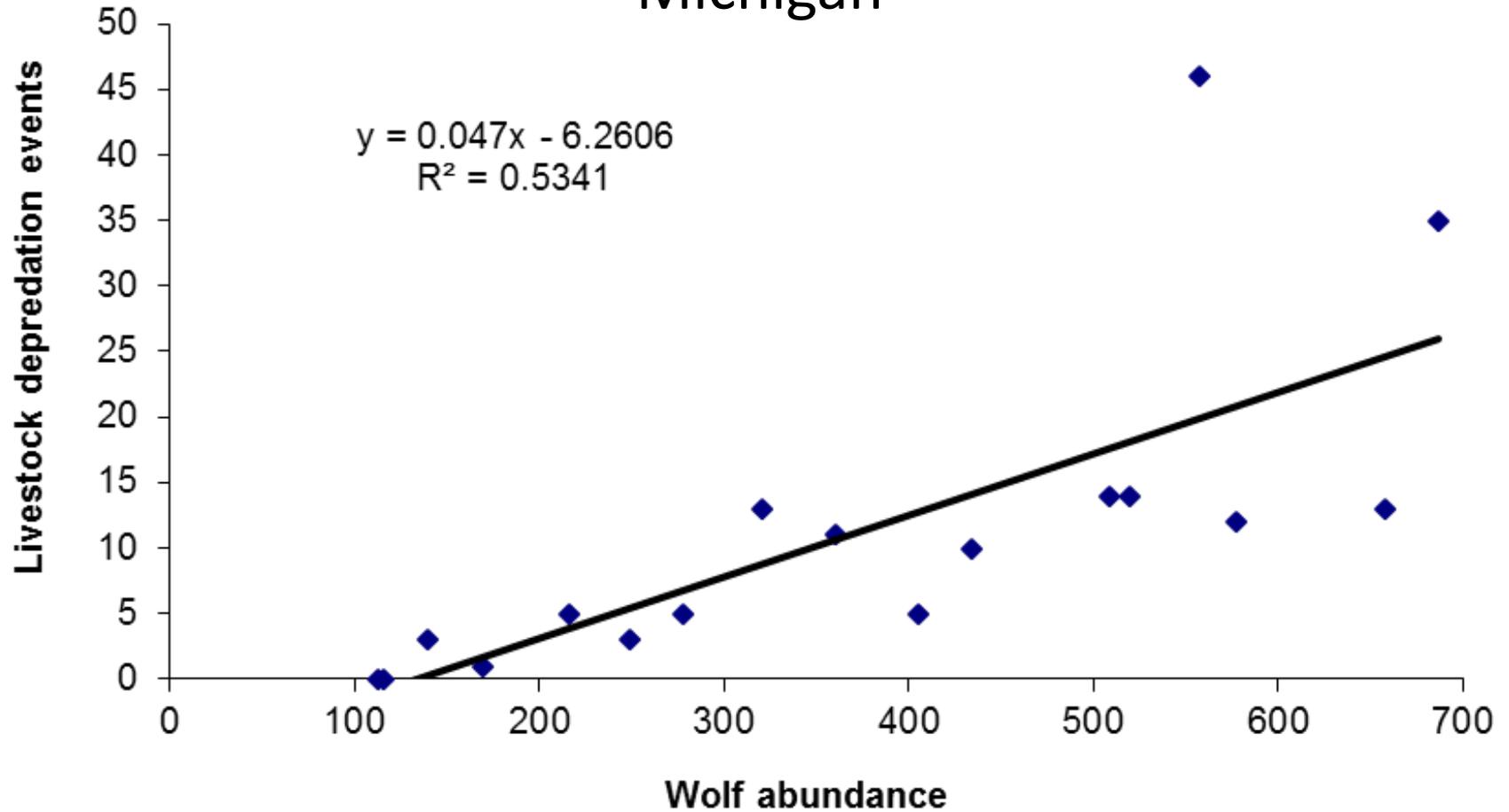
- Quotas,
- Permit levels,
- Zones

Goals and Objectives of Wolf Harvests

- Common goal: sustainability; viable populations
- Objectives:
 - MI: reduce wolf-human conflicts
 - WI: reduce wolf-human conflicts w/ focus on livestock depredations; begin reducing the population to 350 animals
 - MN: provide a recreational opportunity

Wolf Abundance and Livestock Depredations

Michigan

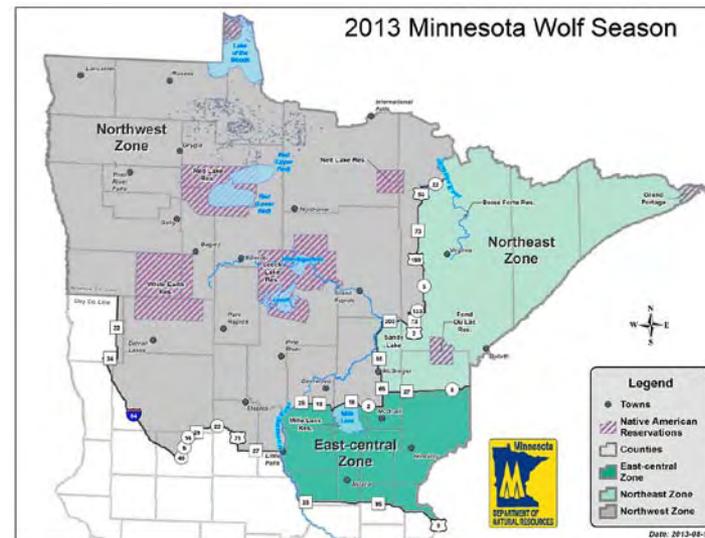
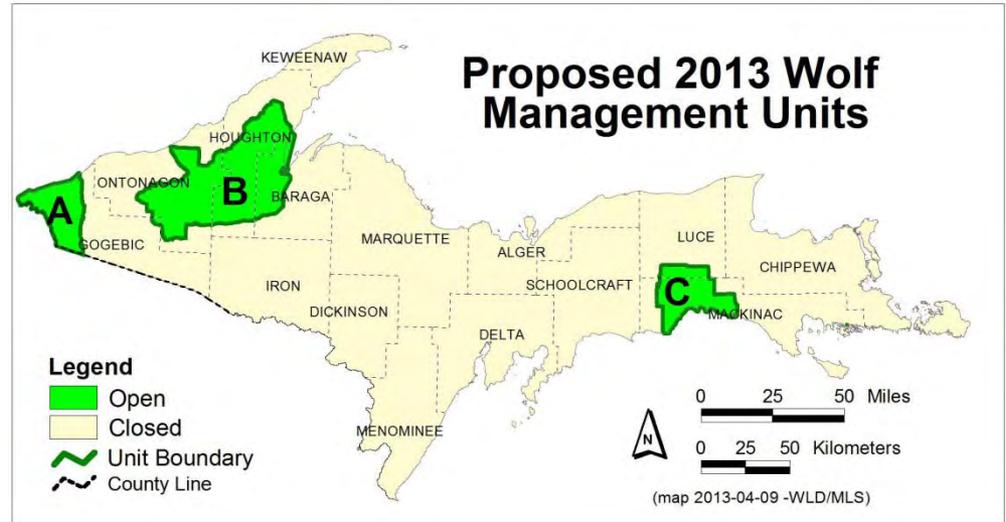
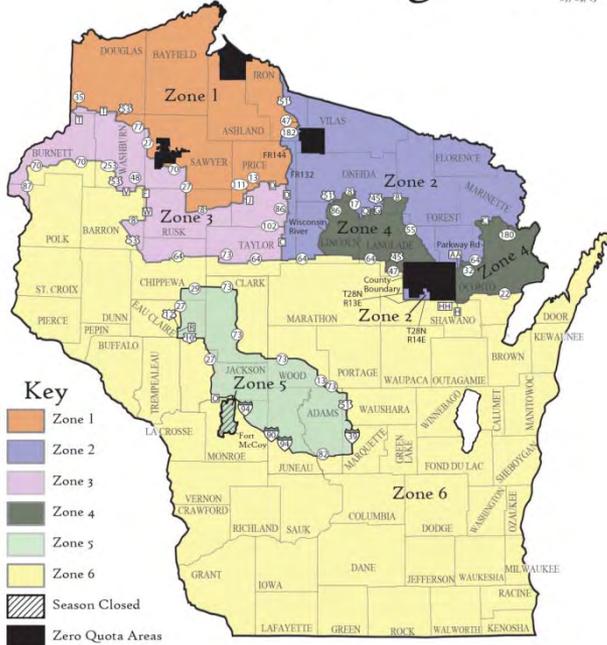


Harvest Implementation

- Zone and quota system

Wolf Harvesting Zones

07/09/13



Harvest Implementation

- Mandatory call in registration within 24 hours of harvest or the day of harvest
- Mandatory carcass submission and in person registration
- Zones closed as zone specific quotas are met



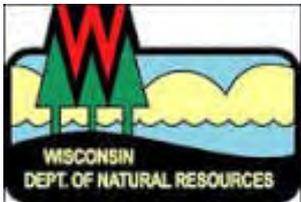
Quota Development



2013 – Adams et al. model-relationship between human-caused mortality and population change

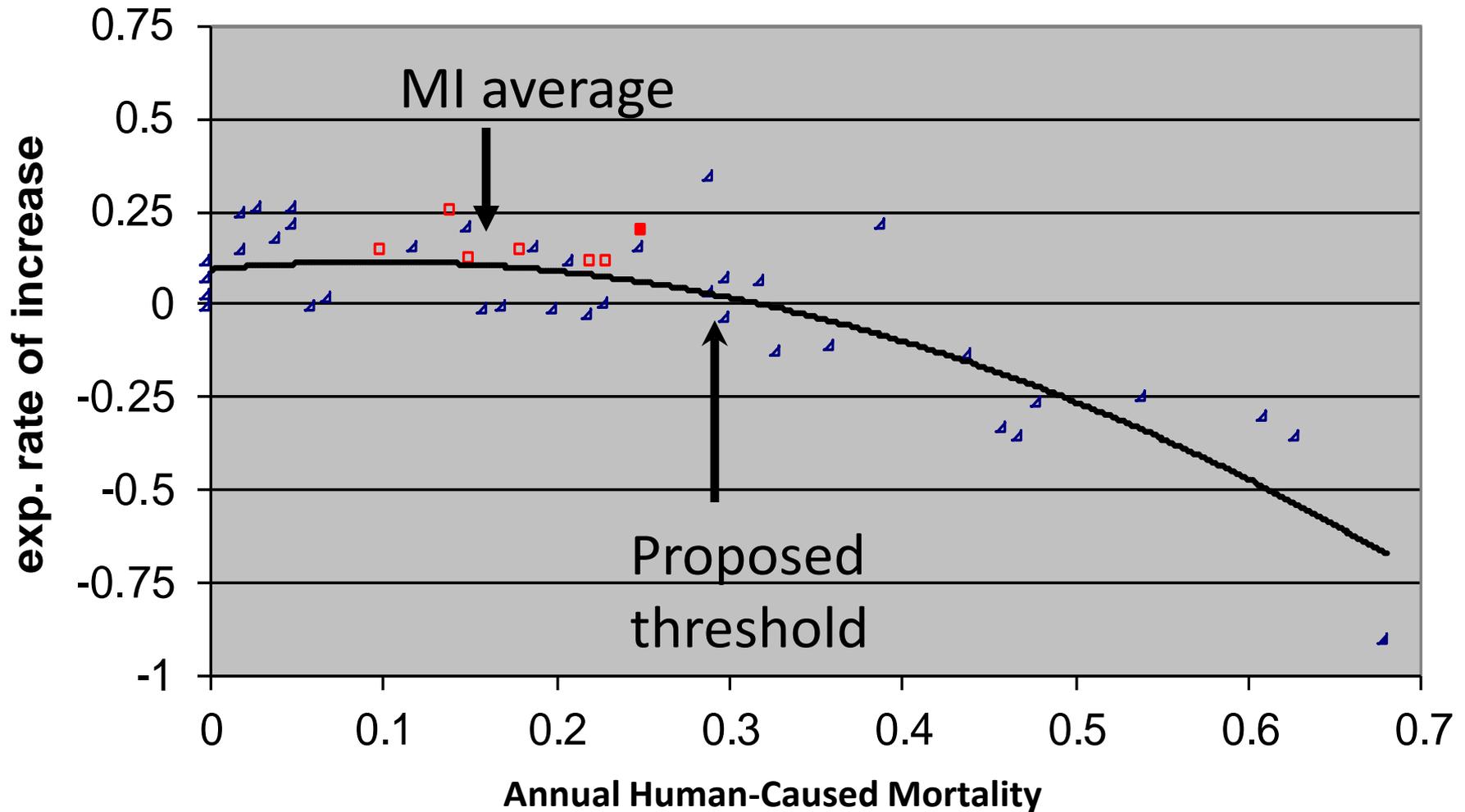


2012-2014 – Adams et al. model-relationship between human-caused mortality and population change



2012-2013 – Individual based population model; 2014 – Adams et al. model

Rate of Increase and Annual Human Caused Mortality of Wolves Meta-Analysis



Season Structure and Allowable Methods



Season Dates	Allowable Methods
November 15 – December 31, 2013	Legal firearms, bow and arrow, crossbow, baiting, predator calls
Nov. 9-10, 2013 – Early hunt; east central wolf zone Nov. 9-24, 2013 – Early hunt; 100 deer permit area Nov. 9-17, 2013 – Early hunt; 200 deer permit area Nov. 30, 2013 – Jan. 31, 2014 – Late season hunt Nov. 30, 2013 – Jan. 31, 2014 – Late season trapping	Legal firearms, bow and arrow, predator calls, bait Legal traps and cable restraints
Oct. 15, 2013 – Feb. 28, 2014 Dec. 2, 2013 – Feb. 28, 2014 Dec. 1, 2013 – Feb. 28, 2014	Legal firearm, bow and arrow, crossbow, predator calls, baiting Hunting with dogs Legal traps and cable restraints

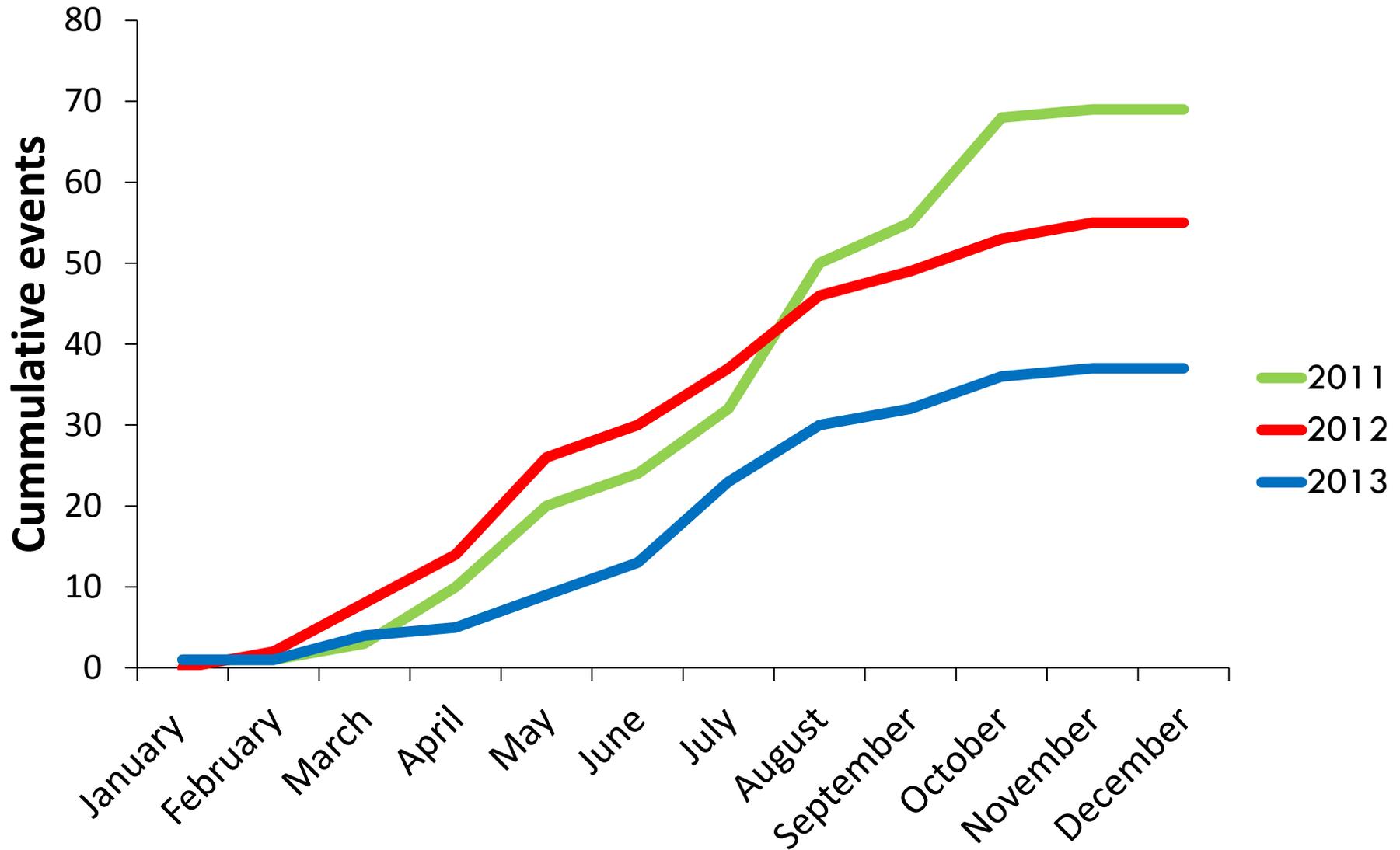


Harvest Results



State	Quota	Harvest	Population
Wisconsin			
2012	116	117	815-887
2013	251	257	809-834
2014	156	-	660-689
Minnesota			
2012	400	413	2211
2013	220	237	
2014	?	-	
Michigan			
2013	44	22	658 \pm 56
2014	?	-	636 \pm 42

Wisconsin Livestock Depredation Events



Data Collection

Biological Data

- Sex
- Age
- Location
- Reproductive status
- Condition
- Disease

Hunter Surveys

- Reasons for applying
- Effort
- Techniques used
- Use of guides
- Success rates
- Interference
- Satisfaction



Challenges To Wolf Harvesting

Veto Referendums



Keep Michigan Wolves Protected

With just 687 wolves in Michigan and more than 50 years spent to recover them, we need to Keep Michigan Wolves Protected.

There are only 687 wolves in Michigan.

We need to protect them

- collect signatures
- events
- spread the word
- donate

Nov. '14
Election

- Public Act 520 of 2012
 - Designated wolves as game spp./ 1st season
- Public Act 21 of 2013
 - Authorized NRC to designate game spp.

Citizen Initiated Legislation

Citizens for Professional Wildlife Management

- NRC to designate game spp., free military licenses, appropriation for work on aquatic invasive spp.



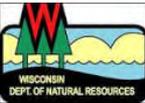
Pending Litigation

- Federal delisting: HSUS, Born Free, HOWL, and FATE filed a suit to reverse USFWS decision to delist wolves in the Western GL

Opportunities ahead.....

Potential collaboration among states:

- Population monitoring
- Population modeling
- Human Dimensions research; e.g., evaluation of whether hunting promotes tolerance of wolves



Questions?

