



# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

5600 American Boulevard West, Suite 990  
Bloomington, Minnesota 55437-1458



IN REPLY REFER TO:

FWS/ES-TE

Collette Adkins  
Carnivore Conservation Program Director, Senior Attorney  
Center for Biological Diversity  
P.O. Box 595  
Circle Pines, Minnesota 55014-0595

Dear Ms. Adkins:

This responds to your October 13, 2021, notice of intent to sue the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). The notice alleges that the Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services are in violation of section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for failing to sufficiently analyze impacts to Canada lynx from Wildlife Services' mammal damage management activities. The notice also makes an allegation solely against Wildlife Services that trapping of other animals will capture a Canada lynx, and that Wildlife Services is in violation of section 9 of the ESA.

At this time, we are discussing your letter with Wildlife Services. We received a letter from Wildlife Services, dated November 24, 2021 (Attachments), requesting consultation regarding potential risks to Canada lynx from Wildlife Services actions to reduce damage caused by gray wolves and other wild and feral mammals in Minnesota. Wildlife Services is preparing a biological assessment that it anticipates completing by January 31, 2022. We request that you refrain from filing suit until we have had time to complete consultation.

If you have any questions about this letter, or if you have more information to share, please contact Shauna Marquardt, Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office Supervisor at [shauna\\_marquardt@fws.gov](mailto:shauna_marquardt@fws.gov). We appreciate your interest in the conservation of listed species.

Sincerely,

LORI NORDSTROM

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NORDSTROM  
Date: 2021.12.09  
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Lori H. Nordstrom  
Assistant Regional Director  
Ecological Services  
Midwest Region 3

Cc: Gary Nohrenberg, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, St. Paul, MN  
Shauna Marquardt, Minnesota-Wisconsin Field Office, Bloomington, MN  
Sharon Pudwill, Office of the Solicitor, Northeast Region, Bloomington, MN

Attachment