

QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

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Species at Risk Recovery Section Species Conservation Policy Branch Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry 300 Water Street, 5N Peterborough, ON K9J 8M5

Dear Species at Risk Recovery Section,

On behalf of the Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA) I am writing to provide comments on the request for additional information to be considered in the development of the recovery strategy for Algonquin Wolf under the Endangered Species Act, 2007, EBR reference 013-1813. The QDMA is an international nonprofit wildlife conservation organization dedicated to ensuring the future of white-tailed deer, wildlife habitat and our hunting heritage. The QDMA has over 60,000 members in North America, and our membership includes hunters, landowners and natural resource professionals.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on this recovery strategy, and our main concern surrounds the size of the proposed Algonquin Wolf Recovery Zone (AWRZ), and more specifically the management strategies proposed within the AWRZ as they relate to loss of hunting and trapping opportunities for coyotes. This loss of recreational opportunity negatively impacts Ontario's sportsmen and women, and increased coyote populations can negatively impact white-tailed deer and other wildlife species populations. Closing coyote harvest opportunity in the AWRZ also seems counterproductive to the recovery goals as the draft recovery strategy stated existing coyote populations are already limiting Algonquin Wolf population increases.

Given the above, we encourage you to revisit the proposed recovery strategies, and suggest new strategies that are likely to succeed in concert with managing Ontario's other wildlife species.

Respectfully,

Kip Adams

Director of Conservation