

## News Release – Lee Bruner for Attorney General (R)

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**For Immediate Release**

### **Bruner supports Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks in Grey Wolf Lawsuit**

BUTTE, MONT. -- Lee Bruner, a republican candidate for Montana Attorney General, today stated that the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks announcement to intervene in a lawsuit to halt the state of Montana from having the right to manage the Grey Wolf is a move in the right direction and comes not a moment too soon.

A Butte lawyer with significant environmental law experience, Bruner said that the federal plan to delist the once endangered Grey Wolf and turn over wolf management to the state of Montana is proper and appropriate. “Montana’s plan to manage the Grey Wolf is considered to be a model plan winning nationwide support,” said Bruner.

“The filing of this lawsuit shows a complete lack of understanding or appreciation of the hard work and concentrated focus by federal and Montana officials,” said Bruner. “Montana can manage the Grey Wolf in a manner that supports a viable wolf population, protects Montana’s important sheep and livestock industries, and does not diminish Montana’s deer and elk herds. “Montana reached biological recovery criteria for the Grey Wolf six years ago and it is now time to delist the wolf,” said Bruner.

According to Bruner, the delisting, combined with Montana’s management plan, is the cutting edge of sustainability. Montana’s management plan will allow for the sustainability of a wolf population which will coexist with Montana’s economically, historically and culturally important cattle and sheep industries and will ensure the viability of elk and deer populations. “This is one of the few times where conservationists, farmers and ranchers, and sportsmen have worked together to accomplish a significant goal that can be a model for future actions,” Bruner stated.

Bruner urges all Montanans to support the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks intervention in this lawsuit.

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