



*News From*

# **Cheryl Dinolfo**

## *Monroe County Executive*

**For Immediate Release**  
Wednesday, March 2, 2016

### **DINOLFO ANNOUNCES TWO GRAY WOLVES MOVING TO SENECA PARK ZOO**

*Timber and Willow Will Occupy Vacated Mexican Gray Wolf Exhibit*

Monroe County Executive **Cheryl Dinolfo** and Seneca Park Zoo officials today announced the arrival of two gray wolves, Timber and Willow, to our Seneca Park Zoo. The two-year-old wolves, born at New York State Zoo in Watertown, were successfully transferred from the Buffalo Zoo earlier this week.

*“The Seneca Park Zoo is a top destination for residents, visitors and families in Monroe County, providing both a fun and educational experience,”* said **Dinolfo**. *“The addition of Timber and Willow not only adds more excitement to the visitor experience but also fills a previously vacant exhibit and provides a great home to these gray wolves.”*

Though removed from the Endangered Species List or otherwise not listed as endangered in the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Washington, Oregon, Utah, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, gray wolves are considered endangered in the rest of the continental United States. In North America, their populations are limited to Alaska, Canada, the Great Lakes, northern Rockies and the Pacific Northwest after being almost eliminated from other parts of their natural range by 1930 due to excessive human interference.

*“Animal care staff is eager to welcome wolves to the Zoo family, and guests will connect deeply with this species when they visit,”* said Seneca Park Zoo Director, **Larry Sorel**. *“We are thrilled to be able to once again provide that experience and fill this exhibit.”*

The addition also creates a learning opportunity for visitors who want to know more about the conservation issues gray wolves are facing in their natural range. *“Wolves are not only a favorite animal for our visitors but also ambassadors with an important story to tell about conservation and ecosystems,”* said Seneca Park Zoo Society Executive Director, **Pamela Reed Sanchez**. *“It is an honor to provide the opportunity for these animals to inspire so many people to act on behalf of conservation.”*

We hope residents will plan a visit to welcome Timber and Willow. The Zoo is open every day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and you can stay on grounds until 4 p.m.

###

**Media Inquiries, contact:**

Department of Communications at 753-1080