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Report: Species law shows results

A new analysis of 110 endangered species says that 90 percent, including many in the Southwest, are on track to meet recovery goals set by federal scientists.

The Center for Biological Diversity, headquartered in Tucson, Ariz., said the review examined population trends of plants and animals protected by the Endangered Species Act in all 50 states, including the Southwest's Gila trout, Apache trout, gray wolves and California condors.

"Again and again, the analysis finds species on a positive trajectory toward recovery -- and in some cases, exceeding expectations," the center said in a news release.

The report relies on data from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and independent scientists, the statement said.

The center described the report as "a science-based rebuttal to attacks on the act by critics like Rep. Doc Hastings, R-Wash., who claims the act is 'failing badly' because only 1 percent of species have been recovered. In fact, the report finds that 80 percent of species haven't been listed for long enough to reach their projected delisting date."