National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

170 Mile Creek Road Grand Portage, MN 55605



ma'iingan (wolf)

Ma'iinganag (wolves) are the largest member of the dog family, which in Minnesota also includes coyotes and waagoshag (foxes). Northern Minnesota once held the last remaining wild wolf population in the Midwest. Over time, wolves moved into more areas of Minnesota, nearby Wisconsin, and into the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Wolves are very social and live in family groups that work together called packs. Usually this is a pair of mates and their pups, sometimes also pups from previous years. In Minnesota and the Midwest, packs average four to eight members. When older pups are present in a pack, they might assist with raising the newest litter by watching over them or helping hunt for food. Wolves prey on deer, moose, and also beavers or other small mammals.



