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(S.D.)-Officials And Residents In Spearfish Disagree About Wolf Sightings



By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 02/27/2014 08:10 AM

(File photo)

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) - Some residents of Spearfish say they've spotted wolves in the area, but police and wildlife officials are skeptical.

Mary and Jack Sty believe they saw three wolves near their home in December, and Pete McNamee reported a wolf sighting this week.

Jack Sty says he initially mistook the animals he saw for deer because of their size, before he saw the tails. McNamee says the animal he spotted was "thicker and sturdier" than a coyote.

Wildlife officials say wolves occasionally wander through the state, but there isn't suitable habitat for the predator in South Dakota. State Game, Fish and Parks conservation officer Mike Apland says the Spearfish sightings probably are cases of mistaken identity.

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