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LEAL – Pro Natura Federation – Green Impact and AGR

Press Release

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Wolf spared: the Administrative Court of Bolzano grants a suspension based on the principle of irreparable harm, following the appeal filed by LEAL and the National Federation Pro Natura, with the support of Green Impact and AGR.

A hearing on the merits of the case is now scheduled, as is a separate hearing on the appeal lodged by the same appeal organisations regarding the culling of the two wolves already killed by the Province.

In the single-judge ruling in which it granted the appeal for interim relief submitted by LEAL – the Anti-Vivisection League – and the National Pro Natura Federation, with the support of Green Impact ETS and AGR, the Regional Administrative Court (TRGA) of Bolzano found that the conditions of gravity and urgency were met, **noting that the culling of an individual belonging to a species subject to conservation legislation would, in this case, have caused irreparable and irreversible harm.** On this basis, the order suspends, pending the hearing on the merits of the case, the decision by which the Autonomous Province of Bolzano had authorised the culling of the third wolf provided for in the 2026 provincial plan.

This is an assessment made as an interim measure; it does not yet constitute a ruling on the merits of the case. **The Court will also rule on the legality of the culling of the two wolves already ordered by the Province,** following the **appeal** lodged by the same organisations. The organisations nevertheless consider it significant that, at this stage, the specific importance of the wolf's status as a protected species has been recognised – a status all too often reduced in public debate to a mere variable in wildlife and hunting management.

LEAL and the Federazione Nazionale Pro Natura, which filed the appeal for interim relief with the support of Green Impact ETS and AGR, say they are satisfied that the TRGA has granted the suspension. The organisations are now awaiting the Court's hearing of the main **appeal**, which has already been filed, concerning the legality of the killing of the other two wolves, which were instead culled on the Province's orders in 2026.

'Wolf management in South Tyrol must once again be based on respect for nature and European conservation legislation, relying on preventive methods and non-lethal approaches. Nature is the Province's greatest source of income and economic development: destroying it runs counter to the interests of Italian and European citizens,' the organisations state.

We would like to thank lawyers Mariachiara Giovinazzo, Luca D'Agostino and Aurora Lo Prete.

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