**BEAM/BEAT Model of Using Sources**

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| **Kind of Source** | **Explanation** | *Conservation challenges of gray wolf reintroduction in Colorado* |
| ***B***  *Background sources* | * Present shared information and established facts * Provide context or background * Intended to be informative * Information is uncontested * Encyclopedias, handbooks, manuals, companions, readers, biographies, etc. | * Encyclopedia articles on former gray wolf habitats and wolf human interaction in Colorado * Available statistics from Colorado Parks & Wildlife * News articles related to history of gray wolves in Colorado   [Note: If you are analyzing bias or controversy in these sources, they become “exhibit” sources rather than “background”] |
| ***E***  *Exhibit sources*  *(particulars from exhibits become evidence)* | * Documents, data, visual images, field observations, lab findings, statistical arrays, natural phenomena, or other artifacts/objects that you analyze, interpret, or explicate * Sources on which you have exercised your own critical thinking to make an argument | * Statements from ranchers and conservationists * US Fish and Wildlife published reports |
| ***A***  *Argument sources*  *(typically peer-reviewed books and articles by other scholars)* | * The conversation of critical views and relevant scholarship that you are joining * Affirm, refute, critique, refine, extend | * Summarize previous research studies on gray wolf populations in Colorado; compare reintroduction (i.e. Yellowstone) as it relates to current challenges in Colorado |
| ***M / T***  *Method / Theory sources* | * References to the theoretical or methodological lens being used * These authors have usually not addressed your specific research question | * Competing methods for conducting this type of research. For example, qualitative methods such as interviewing ranchers and conservationists, or quantitative methods such as existing datasets on wolf habitats * Other research methods that have been used to study your topic. * Applicable environmental theories with which to analyze gray wolf reintroduction through the lens of conservation |

Adapted from Bizup, Joseph. “BEAM: A Rhetorical Vocabulary for Teaching Research-Based Writing.” *Rhetoric Review*, 2008 27(1):72-8

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| **M / T**  Method / Theory sources |  |