

Colorado Gray Wolf 10(j) Rulemaking EIS US Fish and Wildlife Service

State Coordination Meeting Notes

July 24, 2023
3:00 – 4:00 pm MST
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Attendees:

Name	Organization
Kurt Broderdorp	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Brady McGee	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Liisa Niva	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Adam Zerrenner	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Reid DeWalt	Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)
Brian Dreher	Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)
Dave Klute	Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)
Eric Odell	Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)
Stewart Liley	New Mexico Department of Game & Fish (NMDGF)
Kim Hersey	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR)
Jessica Forbes	WSP
Margaret Stover	WSP

Mexican Wolf Language Discussion

The Service shared that after internal discussion, they decided that the best place for language on the Mexican wolf is in the EIS. The Service noted that Mexican wolves are discussed in the section of the rule preamble with comments received on the draft 10(j) rule. The Service included two comments from New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah and provided responses that reiterate the Service's commitment to preserving the genetic integrity of Mexican wolves. They noted that Service Regions 2 and 6 will start to meet regularly to discuss how they will work together on Mexican wolves.

10(a)(1)(A) Recovery Permit

The Service shared that they are planning to issue a public notice for the 10(a)(1)(A) recovery permit for transparency and to ensure they are in sync with NEPA. NMDGF noted that the group could coordinate on the language for the public notice.

Implementation Meeting/Meeting Coordination

The Service asked the group if they could postpone the implementation meeting until late fall. NMDGF noted that they want to ensure the implementation plan is ironed out before wolves are reintroduced and the group agreed that sometime in the fall would be acceptable to meet about implementation.

The Service asked how long the group would like to continue the state coordination meetings. The group decided to continue the meetings weekly until later in August, and then move to every other week through October.

MOU Discussion

CPW asked about the status of the MOU and NMDGF indicated that the current version could be pared down. CPW plans to discuss changes with their attorneys and the state agreed that they should meet to discuss next steps. The Service noted that the states should ensure there is no conflicting language between the MOU and the 10(a)(1)(A) permit.