

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

State Coordination Meeting Notes

October 23, 2023
3:00 – 4:00 pm MST
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Attendees:

Name	Organization
Brady McGee	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Liisa Niva	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Adam Zerrenner	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Jim deVos	Arizona Game & Fish Department (AZGFD)
Clay Crowder	Arizona Game & Fish Department (AZGFD)
Dave Klute	Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)
Eric Odell	Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)
Reid DeWalt	Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)
Brian Dreher	Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)
Kim Hersey	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR)
Stewart Liley	New Mexico Department of Game & Fish (NMDGF)
Madison Reckman	WSP

Region 6 Updates

The Service has drafted a wolf reinstatement rule and plans to publish it either this week or next week. It was emphasized that the 10(j) rule cannot be published until the reinstatement rule is published. The 10(j) rule cleared as of 10/23/2023 and will be effective 30 days after being signed by the director. The Final ROD for the EIS could be signed as soon as Friday.

October 30 Implementation Meeting

The Service is hosting a meeting on October 30 to discuss implementation of the 10(j) rule and provide an update on the 10(a)(1)(A) permit. During this meeting, CPW will discuss the reintroduction plan. NMDGF brought to the Service's attention that tribes could be uncomfortable with NMDGF being present for the meeting, and NMDGF might request to have a separate discussion with the Service.

10(a)(1)(A) Permit

The Service stated that the comment period closes on October 26 for the federal register notice.

Meeting with Navajo Nation

AZGFD discussed on-going conversations with the Navajo Nation and the tribe's concern with the reintroduction of wolves as they have a ranch in Colorado. They have shown interest in the

10(j) rule as their property would fall under the category of private land. Gloria Tom requested the Service give a presentation on the 10(j) rule. The Service is currently working to schedule this virtual meeting.