

From: [Zerrenner, Adam](#)
To: [Hansen, Craig](#); [Backsen, Sarah](#); [McDowell, Tom](#); [Nelson, Marjorie \(Marj\)](#)
Cc: [Broderdorp, Kurt](#); [Becker, Scott A](#); [Williams-shuck, Kathryn L](#); [Niva, Liisa M](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Wolf 10(j)
Date: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 1:43:25 PM

Hi Everyone,

On our call yesterday with the States, this issue was raised again and the States requested seeing the Mexican wolf language in the final rule.

Lets plan on discussing on our afternoon calls on who we want to proceed.

Thanks,

Adam

From: Zerrenner, Adam <Adam_Zerrenner@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 11:04 AM
To: Hansen, Craig <Craig_Hansen@fws.gov>; Backsen, Sarah <Sarah_Backsen@fws.gov>; McDowell, Tom <tom_mcdowell@fws.gov>; Nelson, Marjorie (Marj) <marjorie_nelson@fws.gov>
Cc: Broderdorp, Kurt <kurt_broderdorp@fws.gov>; Becker, Scott A <scott_becker@fws.gov>; Williams-shuck, Kathryn L <kate.williams-shuck@sol.doi.gov>; Niva, Liisa M <Liisa_Niva@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Wolf 10(j)

Hi Everyone,

Enclosed is the excerpt from the 10j rule on MX wolves. We also discuss in our Response to Comments section of the rule and that language is similar to what is below. I believe the States have already seen this language or it has been discussed with them, so I am inclined to let them know that we will not be sharing given it is pre decisional/deliberative and we can discuss with them on our next Monday call when when discuss the MOA and Section 10a permit.

Please let me know if anyone suggests otherwise, thanks -

Adam

Above, we considered potential effects of the release on wild populations of the delisted NRM potential donor populations. We also considered potential effects of the release on the Mexican wolf. The number of gray wolves in Colorado could continue to grow and expand,

which could increase the likelihood that gray wolves in Colorado disperse far enough south to encounter Mexican wolves. The timing and extent of any potential future contact are uncertain and difficult to project, but if contact were to occur, interbreeding is a concern for the Mexican wolf. If gray wolves come to occupy Mexican wolf recovery areas, these physically larger wolves are likely to dominate smaller Mexican wolves and quickly occupy breeding positions, as will their hybrid offspring. Hybrid population(s) thus derived will not contribute towards recovery [of Mexican wolves] because they will significantly threaten integrity of the listed entity (Odell et al. 2018, entire). However, potential inbreeding would be unlikely to have significant effects on the gray wolf, given the narrow geographic range in which such contact would likely occur relative to the species' overall range. Additionally, we do not intend to initiate or allow adaptive introgression between gray wolves and Mexican wolves as part of the genetic management of Mexican wolves (87 FR 39357, July 1, 2022). To help minimize interactions and protect Mexican wolf genetic integrity, we ~~will~~have simultaneously issued a 10(a)1(A) permit to be held by the Service, which would authorize our designated agents to assist in the capture and return of wolves originating from the Colorado NEP.

From: Zerrenner, Adam <Adam_Zerrenner@fws.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 7, 2023 8:24 AM

To: Hansen, Craig <Craig_Hansen@fws.gov>; Backsen, Sarah <Sarah_Backsen@fws.gov>; McDowell, Tom <tom_mcdowell@fws.gov>; Nelson, Marjorie (Marj) <marjorie_nelson@fws.gov>

Cc: Broderdorp, Kurt <kurt_broderdorp@fws.gov>; Becker, Scott A <scott_becker@fws.gov>; Williams-shuck, Kathryn L <kate.williams-shuck@sol.doi.gov>; Niva, Liisa M <Liisa_Niva@fws.gov>

Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Wolf 10(j)

Good Morning All,

We have received a recent request previously to see the draft final 10j rule from Cooperating Agencies including the States and we let them know that we could not provide the draft rule to them because it is a deliberative pre decisional document. The States have also been asking for more discussion on MX wolf in the preamble of the rule.

Question for you all - can we provide excerpts from the draft rule on MX wolf to the States?

Or do we want to say no on sharing all rule text and continue to point them to the FEIS discussion on this topic?

Thanks, and hope you all had a good weekend,

Adam

From: Jim Devos <jdevos@azgfd.gov>
Sent: Sunday, August 6, 2023 9:55 PM
To: Zerrenner, Adam <Adam_Zerrenner@fws.gov>
Cc: Stewart.Liley@state.nm.us <Stewart.Liley@state.nm.us>; McGee, Brady <brady_mcgee@fws.gov>; Clay Crowder <ccrowder@azgfd.gov>; Dwire, Maggie <maggie_dwire@fws.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Wolf 10(j)

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Good evening Adam, I sent Liisa an email about the 10(j) language and saw that she is on leave for a bit. Good for her. The states and the FWS are working on a MOU reference Mexican wolf protections and the role of the MW team in avoiding intergression between MW and northern wolves, which has been and still is a prime concern for MW management. The MW is a unique genome that requires via ESA and other statutes that integration does not occur. The MW team is working on a MOU on management of the two species (subspecies) and it would be very helpful to this process to be able to take a look at the 10(j) language. Since you are filling in for Liisa do you have an idea of when the language will be made available to your state and R2 partners? Thanks Jim

JIM DEVOS | MEXICAN WOLF COORDINATOR
DIRECTORS OFFICE
ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

MOBILE: 928.420.6449

EMAIL: jdevos@azgfd.gov

azgfd.gov | 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086

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