

**From:** [Hughes, John P](#)  
**To:** [Alt, Nicole](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Revised initial action notice  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:16:40 PM

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Copy, and thanks for taking a look. Send to Marj, Clint, and Kate prior to plugging it into the DOI review process outlined in the guidance memo?

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**From:** Alt, Nicole <Nicole\_Alt@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 5:12 PM  
**To:** Hughes, John P <john\_hughes@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Revised initial action notice

Looks good. Thanks.

N

Nicole Alt  
Colorado Ecological Services Supervisor  
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Lakewood, Colorado  
Phone (303) 236-4213  
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The Colorado Ecological Services Office is moving toward 100% electronic project and technical assistance requests. To aid timely responses, please submit all requests to us via email. Send projects to: eastern slope - [ColoradoES@fws.gov](mailto:ColoradoES@fws.gov), or western slope - [GrandJunctionES@fws.gov](mailto:GrandJunctionES@fws.gov).

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**From:** Hughes, John P <john\_hughes@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:49 PM  
**To:** Alt, Nicole <Nicole\_Alt@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Revised initial action notice

How about this for a revised paragraph in the discussion section:

The reintroduction of wolves in Colorado is a State-lead effort. Wolves in Colorado are currently listed as endangered under the ESA. The state has specifically requested we develop a rule to designate an experimental population (10(j) rule) for wolves in Colorado to support their reintroduction program. Section 10 of the ESA provides for the reintroduction of listed species and provides regulatory flexibility for these reintroduced populations. The Service proposes to develop a rule that provides increased management flexibility only if CPW and affected Tribes develop site-specific management plans that are consistent with gray wolf recovery goals, and are formally approved by the Service. Integrating state and tribal management commitments in the rule proactively to build consistency between the rule and future management plans to is key to address the uncertainty surrounding future Federal or

state –led management of wolves in Colorado.

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**From:** Alt, Nicole <Nicole\_Alt@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:28 PM  
**To:** Hughes, John P <john\_hughes@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Revised initial action notice  
Let's go with option 1.

N

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**From:** Hughes, John P <john\_hughes@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:24 PM  
**To:** Alt, Nicole <Nicole\_Alt@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Revised initial action notice  
Nicole,

Thanks for taking a look. Do you want me to replace this language with something more consistent with previous rules, or add something to the effect that the Service will develop a rule and then evaluate subsequent state and tribal management plans to ensure they are consistent with our rule?

John

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**From:** Alt, Nicole <Nicole\_Alt@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:20 PM  
**To:** Hughes, John P <john\_hughes@fws.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Revised initial action notice

Thanks John. My only comment is in reference to this language in the Discussion section:

Integrating state and tribal management commitments in the rule to build consistency between the rule and CPW's management plan to is key to address the uncertainty surrounding future Federal or state –led management of wolves in Colorado.

Should we lean into the language from the previous 10(j) rules? The Service is likely to follow previous reintroduction rules for wolves -- creating a framework for requirements and approval of state and tribal plans.....

Thanks. Otherwise, let's launch this into concurrent reviews and approvals. SOL, RO staff and Leadership.

N

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**From:** Hughes, John P <john\_hughes@fws.gov>

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2022 1:49 PM

**To:** Alt, Nicole <Nicole\_Alt@fws.gov>

**Subject:** Revised initial action notice

Hi Nicole,

Please find attached a revised initial action notice for your review, incorporating timeline recommendations from Alicia Logalbo. I went with the "normal" three weeks between getting internal NOI approval to publication in the FR vs. her pessimistic 1-2 month estimate, in hopes that we can apply pressure in the right places. Let me know if you have any questions, and talk to you soon.

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