

From: [Broderdorp, Kurt](#)
To: [Alt, Nicole](#)
Cc: [Becker, Scott A](#)
Subject: Draft response to Philip Anderson
Date: Tuesday, December 20, 2022 2:16:50 PM

Mr. Anderson,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) recognizes that although wolves are likely to be released on state and/or private lands, the released animals are very likely to disperse away from the area of their release. Our 10(j) rule would provide management flexibility within the entire state of Colorado. We believe the inclusion of the entire state as the boundary for our section 10(j) rule is appropriate in recognition that wolves are capable of moving long distances and will be present on state, Federal, and private lands. Since our rule will apply across the entire state, wolves would be protected, and the management flexibility would apply regardless of where they occur within the state. As to your question about who will be in charge of wolf management, the Service would retain the ultimate authority to manage wolves as long as wolves remain a federally listed species, but we would designate Colorado Parks and Wildlife, as an agent of the Service. As a designated agent of the Service, the State would be the primary agency responsible for management of wolves in Colorado consistent with our 10(j) rule and the state's reintroduction and management plan.

A NEPA analysis would not be required in a source area to capture and bring wolves to Colorado. In terms of what could delay the actual release in December 2023, The Service is doing our best to meet our time commitments for completion of our rule making and the NEPA process in the fall of 2023.

Regards,

Kurt Broderdorp
Senior Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Colorado Field Office (COFO) – Western Team
445 W. Gunnison Ave.
Grand Junction, CO 81501
(970) 628-7186

"To expedite review please send any requests and other materials via email to: grandjunctiones@fws.gov whenever possible."