



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington D.C. 20240



December 18, 2025

Acting Director Clellan
Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife
6060 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80216

Dear Acting Director Clellan:

I write once again pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement between the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS or Service) and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) for Management of Gray Wolves in Colorado and Designation of Colorado Parks and Wildlife as a Designated Agent of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, executed on December 12, 2023, (MOA) regarding management requirements of the Colorado gray wolf 10(j) rule (November 8, 2023; 88 FR 77038-77039) (Colorado gray wolf 10(j) rule or Rule).

As you are aware, at the request of CPW, the Biden Administration completed the Colorado gray wolf 10(j) rule allowing for the experimental introduction of wolves from Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, eastern Oregon, eastern Washington, and north-central Utah—not Canada or Alaska, into Colorado. The Biden-era FWS subsequently delegated authority to CPW to implement the Rule and manage the experimental population via the MOA. Contrary to the terms of the Rule, however, between January 12 and 18, 2025, CPW, with no notice or warning to its own citizens, released 15 wolves imported from Canada. Additionally, on December 17, 2025, FWS was informed that CPW recently released a wolf from a pack with a confirmed history of repeated depredation.

In addition to the various management and reporting requirements included in the Rule, the MOA further provided that the State's management of gray wolves, as a federally listed species, would be conducted in full compliance with the Rule and would be subject to FWS' oversight. Accordingly, the Service now requires a complete reporting of all gray wolf conservation and management activities that have occurred from December 12, 2023, until the present, as well as a narrative summary and all associated documents describing CPW's January 2025 release of wolves imported from Canada, and any more releases, including its recent release of a wolf from a pack with a confirmed history of repeated depredation. If this information is not provided within 30-calendar-days, the Service will pursue all legal remedies, as warranted.

The MOA, which granted CPW lead management responsibility and authority for grey wolf conservation and management in Colorado, allows the Service to terminate the agreement upon 60-calendar-day written notice. **If the above information is not supplied within the prescribed time period, this letter serves as the requisite 60-calendar-day notice of termination.**

Termination of the MOA will result in the immediate revocation of all CPW authority over grey wolves in its jurisdiction. In the case of revocation of authority, the Service will reassume all gray wolf management activities, including relocation and lethal removal, as determined necessary.

We look forward to CPW's attention and timely cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



Brian Nesvik
Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service