

January 19, 2023

Dr. Brady McGee  
**Mexican Wolf Recovery Program**  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
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Director Mike Sloan  
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**Re: Mexican gray wolf F2754**

Dear Dr. McGee and Director Sloan,

The undersigned conservation groups and individuals are asking you to let Mexican gray wolf F2754, “Asha,” continue to roam free in northern New Mexico or wherever she chooses to go. We appreciate the work you have done to remind the public of the protections afforded to her under the Endangered Species Act.

We are thrilled that Asha, a young wolf from Arizona, has chosen to leave the arbitrarily-defined Mexican Wolf Experimental Project Area’s (MWEPA) northern boundary of Interstate 40 and enter the abundant available habitat of northern New Mexico. We are inspired by her adventurous spirit and relieved that she’s safely surmounted the significant obstacles she’s already encountered. Asha serves as a living testament to the truth that wolves are individuals with their own hopes and desires.

Asha is also a testament to the reality that the current 10j boundary is insufficient to meet the needs of this expanding population. As you are certainly aware, many of our organizations have been advocating for the removal of the artificial northern bounds on dispersing wolves, but Asha is herself a powerful advocate for the abolition of this wholly-political policy. We hope that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will heed her message and begin a rule-change process to facilitate creation of a population of Mexican wolves in the southern Rocky Mountains – and that state agencies will reverse their opposition and support this effort.

Thank you in advance for helping to welcome Asha back into her ancestral territories and working to provide safe harbor for this remarkable individual. We’re more than willing to assist with proactive outreach efforts and would be happy to meet with you to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



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