



News Release

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Service Determines the White-Sided Jackrabbit Does Not Require Endangered Species Protection

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announced the results of a 12-month finding on a petition to list the white-sided jackrabbit as endangered and to designate critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. After review of all available scientific and commercial information, the Service found that listing the full species, *Lepus callotis*, is not warranted at this time.

Additionally, the Service found that listing one or both of the subspecies, *Lepus callotis callotis* and *Lepus callotis gaillardia*, is not warranted at this time, and that listing the northern populations of the subspecies *L. c. gaillardia* as a Distinct Population Segment is also not warranted at this time.

The Service has determined that the species is not in danger of extinction now, nor is it likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. However, the Service is asking the public to submit any new information that becomes available concerning the threats to the full species of the white-sided jackrabbit, or to either of the two currently recognized subspecies, or the species' habitat at any time.

The public may submit any new information to our Southwest Regional Ecological Services Fish and Wildlife Office at 2105 Osuna NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113, whenever it becomes available. New information will help the Service monitor this subspecies and encourage its conservation. If an emergency situation develops for this subspecies or any other species, the Service will act to provide immediate protection.

This finding is available on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> at Docket Number FWS-R2-ES-2009-0039. Supporting documentation used in preparing this finding is available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, 2105 Osuna NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113.

For further information contact Wally Murphy, Field Supervisor, New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office, 2105 Osuna NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113; by telephone at 505-346-4781; or by facsimile at 505-346-2542. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), please call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 800-877-8339.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.

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