

*Welcome! The meeting will begin momentarily. Thank you for your patience as we wait for others to join.*

*\*Please join using computer audio*

*\*Closed captioning is available by selecting the Closed Caption icon at the bottom of your Zoom screen*

# Bleached Sandhill Skipper Proposed Listing

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – April 16, 2025

Reno Fish and Wildlife Office, 1340 Financial Blvd, Reno, Nevada



# Meeting Agenda

- Meeting Ground Rules
- Welcome and Introductions
- USFWS Presentation
- Public Hearing Portion
- Closing Remarks

# Meeting Ground Rules

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1. Closed captioning is available by selecting the Closed Caption icon at the bottom of your Zoom screen
2. The meeting is being recorded; and will be posted to the USFWS website.
3. Microphones and videos of participants will be automatically muted for the duration of the meeting unless the moderator unmutes you during the verbal public hearing portion.
4. Verbal public comments can be provided after the Presentation. Written comments can also be submitted at <http://www.regulations.gov> (In the Search box, enter FWS-R8-ES-2024-0041-0029).

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# **Welcome and Introductions**



# Informational Presentation

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- Endangered Species Act information
- Range
- Bleached Sandhill Skipper Life History
- Threats
- Listing Evaluation
- Public Comment



Male on rabbitbrush

# Bleached Sandhill Skipper Listing History

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- 2012 Finding of Not Warranted
- 2022 Petition to List
- 2023 Species Status Assessment
- 2025 Proposed Rule (initial finding)

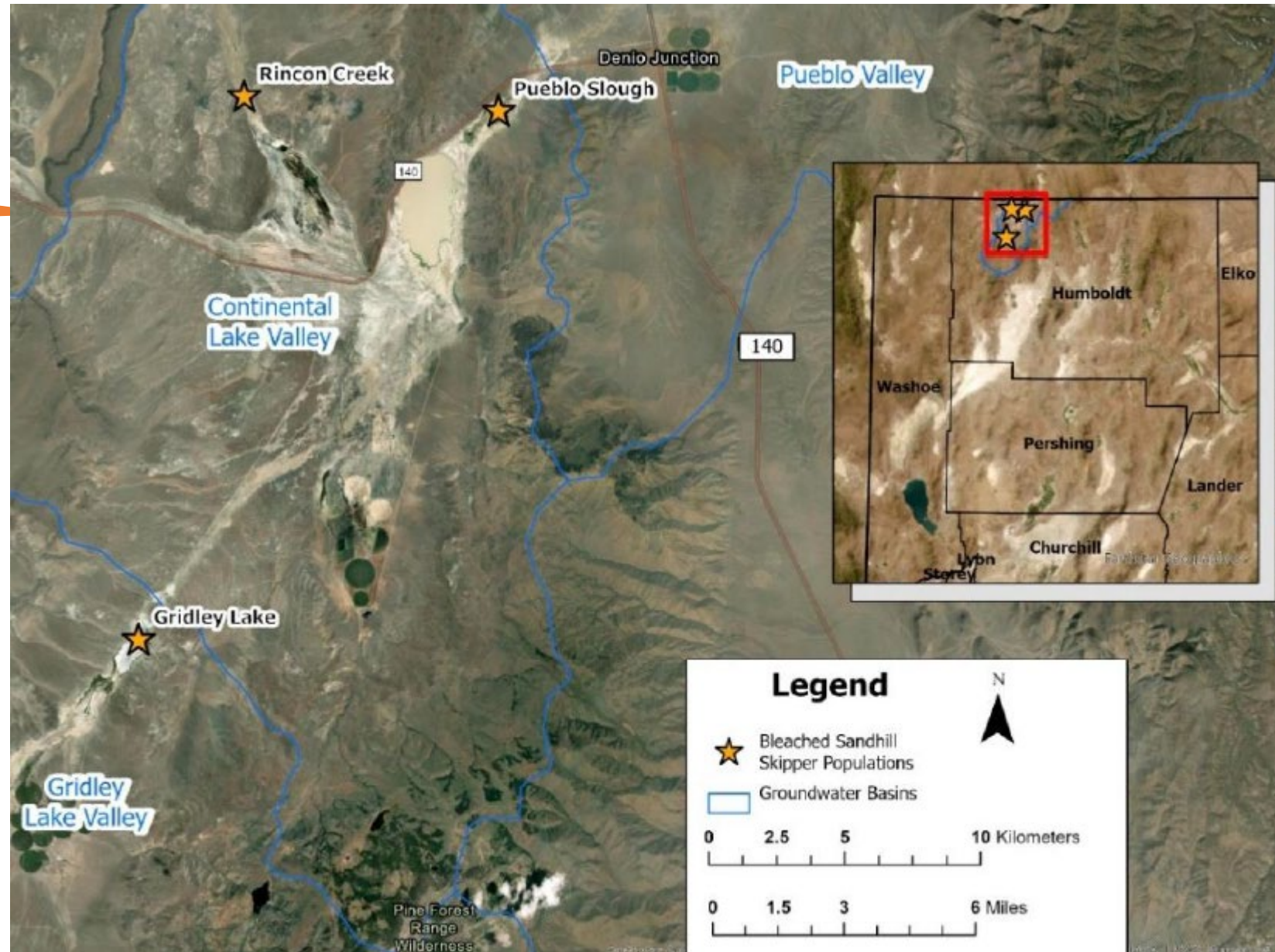
# What Action is the FWS Taking?

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- January 8, 2025: We have proposed to list the bleached sandhill skipper as an endangered species
- January 8 to March 10, 2025: First public comment period
- March 19, 2025 : Reopened comment period to hold this requested public hearing and in response to request for comment period extension.
- May 19, 2025 8:59 pm Pacific time: Second public comment period closes.
- January 2026: Final listing decision is due (12 months from proposed rule)

# Range map

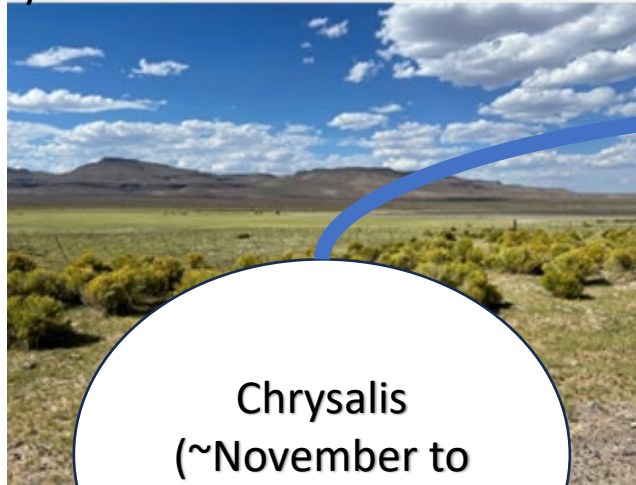
- Three populations
  - Pueblo Slough
  - Rincon Creek
  - Gridley Lake



Map of populations 8

# Life history

Gridley Lake



Chrysalis  
(~November to  
August)

Adult  
(~August to  
early October)



Adult female on  
yellow rabbitbrush

Egg  
(~August to  
October)

Caterpillar  
(~September to  
November)



Saltgrass as host plant

# Life History



Pueblo Slough

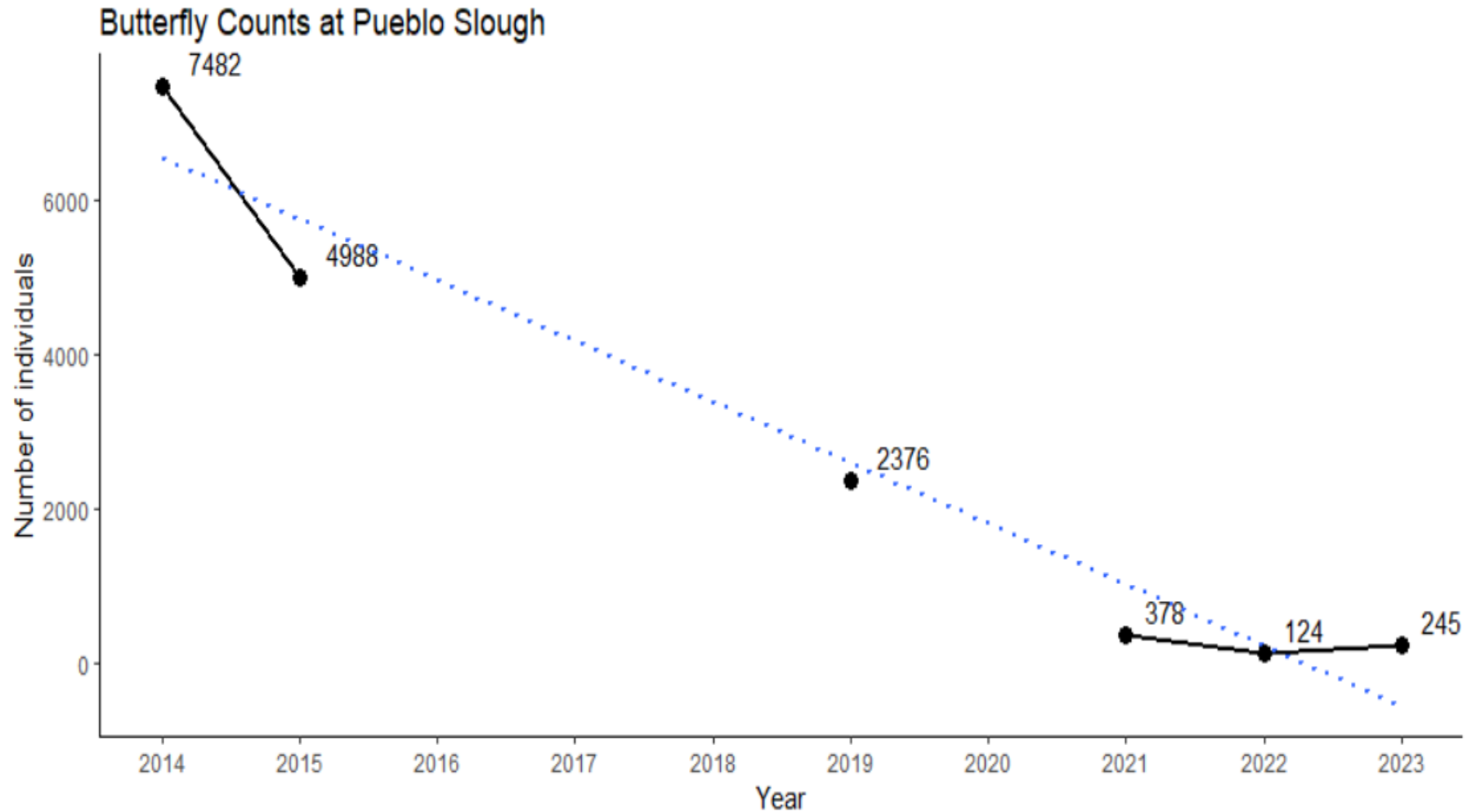


Gridley Lake

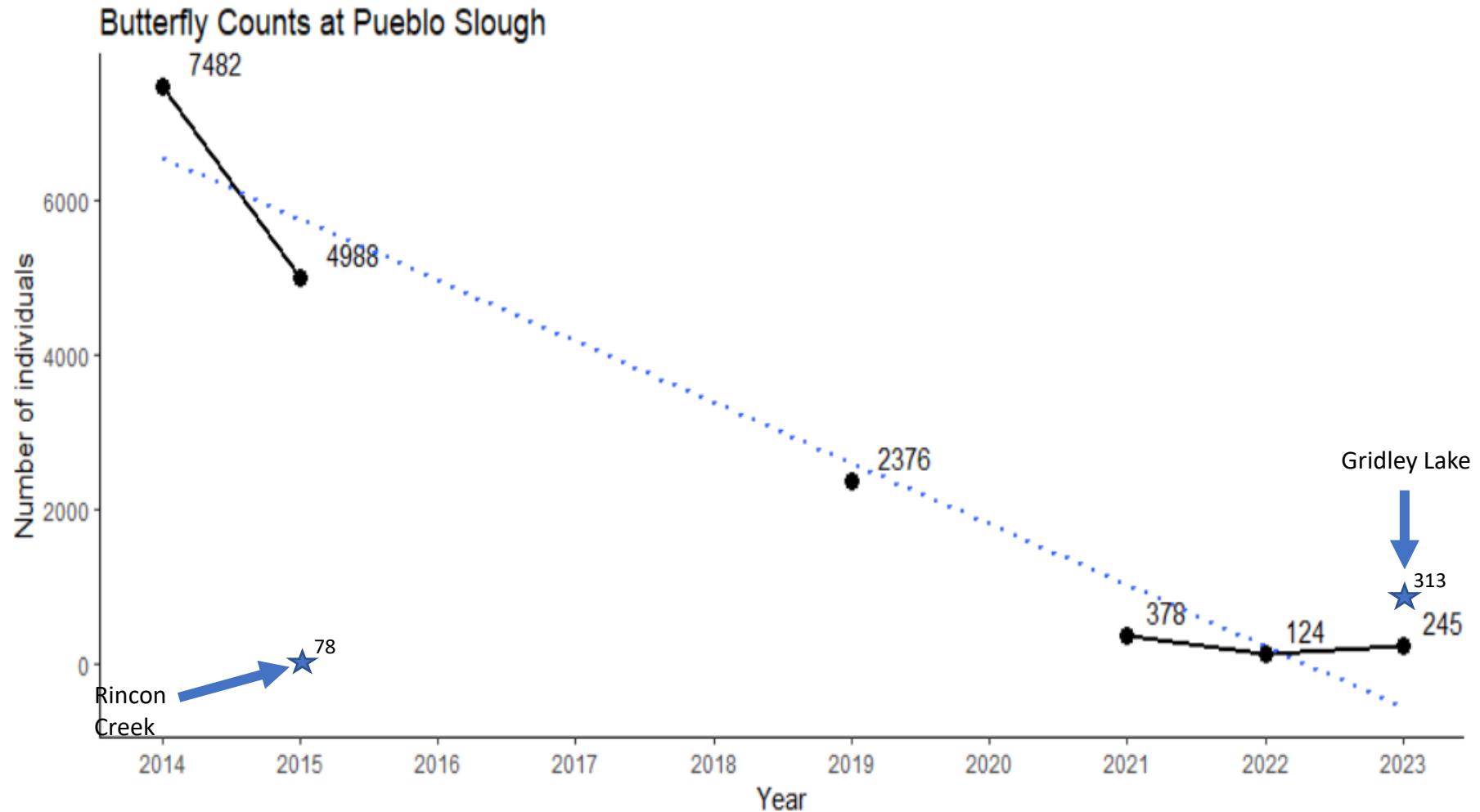


Rincon Creek

# Survey count data



# Survey count data



# ESA Listing Decisions are based on:

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- (A) Present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range;
- (B) Over-use for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes;
- (C) Disease or predation;
- (D) Inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or
- (E) Other natural or man-made factors affecting the continued existence of the species.

# Factors that may affect the species

- Changing climatic conditions
- Groundwater pumping
- Grazing
- Geothermal development



Female on yellow rabbitbrush

# ESA Listing Decisions are based on:

- (A) Present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range;**
- (B) Over-use for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes;
- (C) Disease or predation;
- (D) Inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or
- (E) Other natural or man-made factors affecting the continued existence of the species.**

# Summary

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- The Service is proposing to list the bleached sandhill skipper as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act
- The Service is requesting any additional information from the public to help inform our final decision.
  - For example:
    - habitat conditions over time,
    - additional populations,
    - past or ongoing conservation measures, or
    - any other information for us to consider in our assessment.

# *Comments accepted through May 19, 2025*

- **Orally:** Oral comments will be received during this public hearing.
- **In writing electronically:** Go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. In the Search box, enter FWS-R8-ES-2024-0041-0029 Click on “Comment”
- **By hard copy:** Submit by U.S. mail:
  - Public Comments Processing
  - Attn: FWS-R8-ES-2024-0041-0029
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  - MS: PRB/3W
  - 5275 Leesburg Pike
  - Falls Church, VA 22041-3803
- We will accept comments received or postmarked on or before May 19, 2025. Comments submitted electronically must be received by 8:59 p.m. Pacific Time on May 19, 2025.

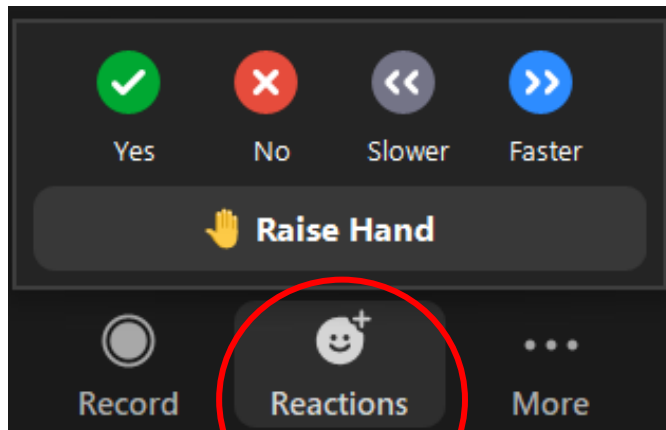
# Verbal Public Hearing: Instructions for Commenters

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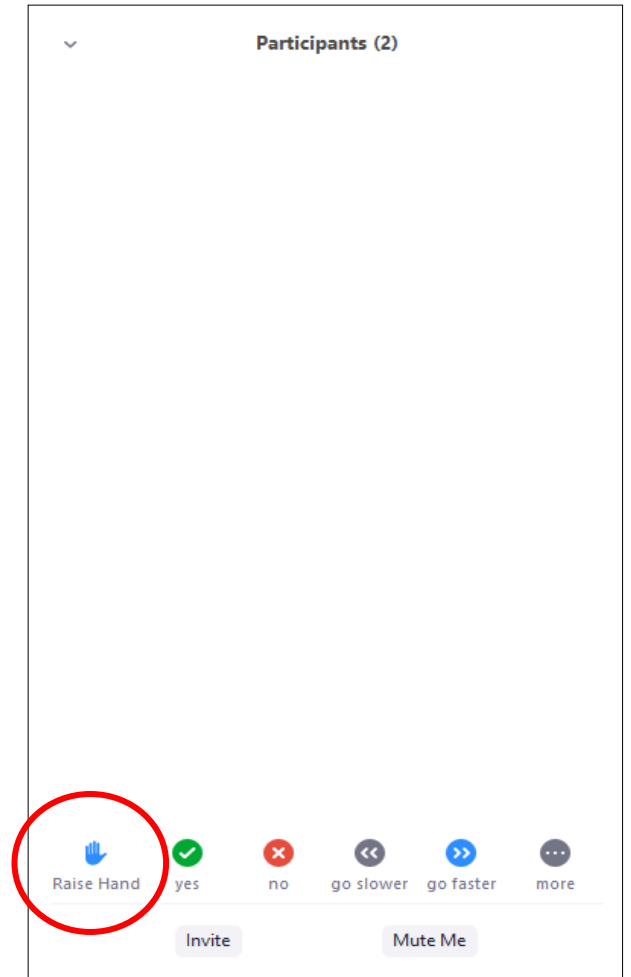
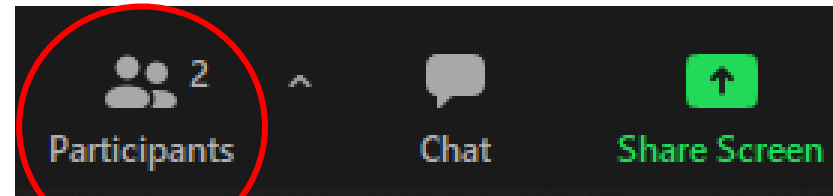
- Verbal public comments will be accepted in order of registration.
- When it is your turn, the moderator will call out your name and display your name on the screen.
- Use the “raise hand” feature in Zoom or, if you are calling in through the phone, press \*9 to “raise your hand.”
- The moderator will then unmute you.
- Please spell out your full first and last name for the record before you provide your comment.
- Your comment will be included in the project record.

# RAISE HAND FEATURE IN ZOOM

## Zoom Reactions Icon



## Zoom Participants Icon



To access the raise hand feature, click on either the reactions icon or participants list icon at the bottom of your zoom screen. If you are calling in using your phone, press \*9 on your keypad.

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If you are having issues with your computer microphone, please dial in to the meeting: Phone: 689 278 1000 US; Webinar ID: 885 6295 7698

**Current** Commenter:

**Next** Commenter:



\*If you are unable to offer or complete your verbal public comment during the meeting today, the USFWS encourages you to submit your comment in writing via [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov) by searching docket number FWS-R8-ES-2024-0041-0029



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