

Peer Review Plan for the Species Status Assessment of the Island Bedstraw (*Galium buxifolium*)

About the Document

Titles:

Species Status Assessment for the island bedstraw (*Galium buxifolium*)

Description of Documents:

The Species Status Assessment is intended to be an in-depth review of the species' biology and stressors, an evaluation of its biological status, and an assessment of the resources and conditions needed to maintain long-term viability.

About the Peer Review Process

Type of Review: Individual letters

Number of reviewers: The peer review process will include written requests for peer review from three peer reviewers.

Selection of Peer Reviewers: The Service selected peer reviewers based on their expertise with the subject matter.

Reviewer expertise: Expertise that will be sought for the review includes familiarity with the life history, threats, and habitat requirements for the island bedstraw.

Estimated start date of peer review: September 30, 2020

About Public Participation

Opportunities for the Public: The public had an opportunity to provide information regarding the island bedstraw following the publication of the 12-month finding in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 40954-40974; July 31, 1997). We are now re-examining the status of this species. Should we determine that proposed de or down listing of this species is warranted, a notice in the **Federal Register** will initiate another opportunity for the public to provide comments and information through the standard rule-making process (e.g., via www.regulations.gov).

The Service will also submit the Species Status Assessment for review and comment to State agency, Federal agencies, and to relevant Tribal partners.

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