

## **Peer Review Plan for the West Coast Distinct Population Segment of Fisher Proposed Rule**

### ***About the Documents***

#### **Titles:**

- 1) Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for West Coast Distinct Population Segment of Fisher; Proposed Rule
- 2) Draft Species Report, Fisher (*Pekania pennanti*), West Coast Population, January 13, 2014.

#### **Description of Documents:**

- 1) This document announces the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) proposal to list the West Coast Distinct Population Segment of Fisher as threatened. This document contains a number of questions seeking specific comment, information and data, and also seeks comment on two potential alternative DPS configurations.
- 2) This document synthesizes the scientific information on fisher biology, habitat use, historical and current stressors to fishers, and the scope and severity of these stressors to fisher in the West Coast DPS.

**Estimated dissemination date of the final version of the document:** A final determination will be made by September 30, 2015.

### ***About the Peer Review Process***

**Type of Review:** Individual letters

**Number of reviewers:** The peer review process included written requests for peer review from 29 peer reviewers in order to ensure that we receive at least 5 peer reviews within the 90-day public comment period.

**Selection of Peer Reviewers:** The Service selected peer reviewers based on their expertise with the subject matter and lack of any conflicts of interest as described in the Office of Management and Budget Peer Review Guidelines.

**Reviewer expertise:** Expertise sought for the review is the familiarity with the life history, threats, and habitat requirements for the fisher; habitat modeling; genetics; and toxicants.

**Estimated start date of peer review:** October 7, 2014.

### ***About Public Participation***

**Opportunities for the Public:** The proposed rule has a public comment period from October 7, 2014, to January 5, 2015, and the proposed rule identifies specific information requested from the public. Public comments are to be submitted electronically through [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (Docket ID: FWS-R8-ES-2014-0041).

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