



Powelson, Katherine <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>

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## Peer review request from USFWS

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**Bjerke, Jeb@Wildlife** <Jeb.Bjerke@wildlife.ca.gov>  
To: "Powelson, Katherine" <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>

Mon, Apr 15, 2019 at 1:48 PM

Hi Katherine,

I reviewed the draft Recovery Plan Revision for Large-flowered Fiddleneck (*Amsinckia grandiflora*) that you sent me. To my knowledge, the information presented in the draft recovery plan revision is accurate, and the revisions to the recovery criteria seem reasonable.

My only comment is that I found the Abundance section on page 3 to be confusing because it is not clear how the extant populations at the time of listing are related to the extant populations in 2017 (and today). I suggest providing a better description of the large-flowered fiddleneck populations mentioned in this paragraph. A table could be helpful to convey this information with columns such as "Name of Population", "Introduced/ Natural", "Status at Time of Listing", and "Status in 2017(2019)". Statuses could be: unknown/extant/extirpated/or not yet created.

I have attached the conflict to interest form that you sent me. I noticed the form mentions a "newborn screening panel". Did you send me the correct form?

Regardless, thank you for the opportunity to review the draft Recovery Plan Revision for Large-flowered Fiddleneck (*Amsinckia grandiflora*).

Sincerely,

Jeb McKay Bjerke

Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)

Native Plant Program

California Department of Fish & Wildlife

Habitat Conservation Planning Branch

(916) 651-6594

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Plants>

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**Conflict of interest form Bjerke.pdf**  
247K



Powelson, Katherine &lt;katherine\_powelson@fws.gov&gt;

## Peer Review Request from USFWS

9 messages

**Powelson, Katherine** <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>  
To: mhammond@ebparks.org

Mon, Mar 11, 2019 at 2:54 PM

Dear Michele Hammond,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is soliciting independent scientific reviews of a draft recovery plan amendment for the "Recovery Plan Revision for Large-flowered Fiddleneck (*Amsinckia grandiflora*)". In this proposed amendment, we provide draft delisting criteria Large-flowered Fiddleneck (*Amsinckia grandiflora*). Draft and final recovery plan revisions are publicly available through our Environmental Conservation Online System (ECOS, <https://ecos.fws.gov>); this draft revision is also attached.

We are seeking your expert review on the following:

- Have we assembled and considered the best available scientific and commercial information relevant to this species?
- Is our analysis of this information correct?
- Are our scientific conclusions reasonable in light of this information?

This request is provided in accordance with our July 1, 1994, peer review policy (USFWS 1994, p. 34270) and our current internal guidance. This request also satisfies the peer review requirements of the Office of Management and Budget's "Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review." Our updated peer review guidelines also require that all peer reviewers fill out a conflict of interest form (**see attached**). We will carefully assess any potential conflict of interest or bias using applicable standards issued by the Office of Government Ethics and the prevailing practices of the National Academy of Sciences (<http://www.nationalacademies.org/COI/index.html>). Divulging a conflict does not invalidate the comments of the reviewer; however, it will allow for transparency to the public regarding the reviewer's possible biases or associations. You may return the completed conflict of interest form either prior to or with your peer review.

We ask that you please provide your comments no later than **April 15, 2019**. Please provide your written response to us by email or by letter. Please be aware that your completed review of the draft recovery plan revision, including your name and affiliation, will be included in the administrative record and will be available to interested parties upon request.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your consideration,

**Kat Powelson**  
Science Support Coordinator, Science Applications  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Pacific Southwest Region  
(916) 278-9448 office  
3020 State University Drive East  
Modoc Hall, Suite 2007  
Sacramento CA 95819

### 2 attachments

**Draft APG amendment Large-flowered fiddleneck\_revised.docx**  
41K

**Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form.pdf**  
63K

**Michele Hammond** <MHammond@ebparks.org>  
To: "Powelson, Katherine" <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>

Thu, Mar 14, 2019 at 1:12 PM

I will send you comments before April 15.

### Michele Hammond

**Botanist** | Stewardship

East Bay Regional Park District

2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605

T: 510-544-2348 | F: 510-635-3478

MHammond@ebparks.org | www.ebparks.org



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**Powelson, Katherine** <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>  
To: Michele Hammond <MHammond@ebparks.org>

Thu, Mar 14, 2019 at 2:54 PM

Great, thanks!  
**Kat Powelson**  
**Science Support Coordinator, Science Applications**  
**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Pacific Southwest Region**  
**(916) 278-9448 office**  
3020 State University Drive East  
Modoc Hall, Suite 2007  
Sacramento CA 95819

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**Powelson, Katherine** <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>  
To: Michele Hammond <MHammond@ebparks.org>

Tue, Apr 16, 2019 at 11:09 AM

Hello Michele,  
I am just following up are you able to provide your comments?  
**Kat Powelson**  
**Science Support Coordinator, Science Applications**  
**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Pacific Southwest Region**  
**(916) 278-9448 office**  
3020 State University Drive East  
Modoc Hall, Suite 2007  
Sacramento CA 95819

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**Michele Hammond** <MHammond@ebparks.org>  
To: "Powelson, Katherine" <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>

Tue, Apr 16, 2019 at 12:36 PM

Is by the end of today still useful?

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**Powelson, Katherine** <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>  
To: Michele Hammond <MHammond@ebparks.org>

Tue, Apr 16, 2019 at 1:19 PM

Yes, if you could get it to me by the end of the week that would be fine. Thanks.  
**Kat Powelson**  
**Science Support Coordinator, Science Applications**  
**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Pacific Southwest Region**  
**(916) 278-9448 office**  
3020 State University Drive East  
Modoc Hall, Suite 2007  
Sacramento CA 95819

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**Michele Hammond** <MHammond@ebparks.org>  
To: "Powelson, Katherine" <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>

Tue, Apr 16, 2019 at 3:52 PM

Great! Before Friday.

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**Michele Hammond** <MHammond@ebparks.org>  
To: "Powelson, Katherine" <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>

Fri, Apr 19, 2019 at 5:08 PM

More soon.



**Michele Hammond**

**Botanist | Stewardship**

East Bay Regional Park District

2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605

T: 510-544-2348 | F: 510-635-3478

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**From:** Powelson, Katherine <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2019 2:55 PM  
**To:** Michele Hammond <MHammond@ebparks.org>  
**Subject:** Peer Review Request from USFWS

Dear Michele Hammond,

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[Quoted text hidden]

 **conflict of interest statement.pdf**  
30K

**Michele Hammond** <MHammond@ebparks.org>  
To: "Powelson, Katherine" <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>

Fri, Apr 19, 2019 at 5:28 I

I have no comments to add other than answers to the affirmative to the questions below. I have been attending the RIT meetings for the past year but am not officially part of the team.

- Have we assembled and considered the best available scientific and commercial information relevant to this species? YES
- Is our analysis of this information correct? YES
- Are our scientific conclusions reasonable in light of this information? YES



**Michele Hammond**

**Botanist** | Stewardship

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**From:** Powelson, Katherine <katherine\_powelson@fws.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2019 2:55 PM  
**To:** Michele Hammond <MHammond@ebparks.org>  
**Subject:** Peer Review Request from USFWS

Dear Michele Hammond,

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4/23/2019

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mail - Peer Review Request from USFWS

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