

Draft Recovery Plan for Four Subspecies of Island Fox (*Urocyon littoralis*)

About the Document

Title: Draft Recovery Plan for Four Subspecies of Island Fox (*Urocyon littoralis*)

Subject and Purpose: This document is a draft recovery plan for four subspecies of Island Fox, the San Miguel Island fox (*Urocyon littoralis littoralis*), Santa Rosa Island fox (*U. l. santarosae*), Santa Cruz Island fox (*U. l. santacruzae*), and Santa Catalina Island fox (*U. l. catalinae*). Each of the four subspecies is endemic to the Channel Island off southern California for which it is named. The objective of a recovery plan is to provide a framework for the recovery of species so that protection under the Endangered Species Act is no longer necessary. Recovery plans help guide our recovery efforts by describing actions we consider necessary for each species' conservation and by estimating time and costs for implementing needed recovery measures.

Importance of Scientific Information: This recovery plan includes scientific information about the four subspecies and provides criteria and actions necessary that would enable the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to potentially downlist or delist each.

About the Peer Review Process

Type of review: Letter.

Number of reviewers: Letters to a minimum of three peer reviewers requesting peer review will be sent at the time of publication of the Federal Register notice of availability for the draft recovery plan (late-summer/early-fall 2011). Responses to peer review comments will be published in the final revised recovery plan.

Reviewer Expertise: Island fox biology, ecology, population dynamics, disease, or genetics. Biology, ecology, disease, or population dynamics of other fox species (gray or red fox, for example), canids (coyotes or wolves, for example), or other carnivores. Ecosystem(s) of the Channel Islands where the island fox occurs.

Selection of Peer Reviewer: Peer reviewers will be selected based on their expertise with the subject matter and have no conflicts of interest as described in the Office of Management Peer Review Guidelines

Management of Peer Reviewer: The peer review will be managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

About Public Participation

Contact: Michael McCrary, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, CA, 93003, 805-644-1766.