

News Release



**U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Mountain-Prairie Region
134 Union Boulevard
Lakewood, Colorado 80228**

For Immediate Release
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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to Consider Northern Rocky Mountain Fisher Population for ESA Protection

Information Sought from the Public during 30-Day Information Gathering Period

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DENVER – The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announced today the initiation of a status review for the distinct population segment (DPS) of Northern Rocky Mountain (NRM) Fisher, to determine whether this population meets the definition of an endangered or threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Today’s announcement opens a thirty day information gathering period regarding the status of the fisher, which closes at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on February 11, 2017. The Service encourages all interested parties to provide any information they may have regarding the status of, and any potential threats to, the northern Rocky Mountain DPS of the fisher prior to this deadline.

The public may submit comments by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. In the Search box, enter FWS-R6-ES-2015-0104, which is the docket number for this action. Then click on the Search button. You may enter a comment by clicking on “Comment Now!” Please ensure that you have found the correct document before submitting your comment.
- *U.S. mail or hand delivery:* Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS-R6-ES-2015-0104, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: BPHC, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803.

Please note that the Service will post all comments on <http://www.regulations.gov>. This

generally means that we will post any personal information you provide.

The fisher (*Martes pennanti*) is a medium-sized mammal native to North America. It is classified in the order Carnivora, family Mustelidae – a family that also includes weasels, mink, martens, and otters. Fishers live in coniferous and mixed conifer and hardwood forests and are found commonly in mature forest cover. Learn more about the species at:

<https://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/es/fisher.php>.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service.

For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit <http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/>. Connect with our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/USFWSMountainPrairie>, follow our tweets at <http://twitter.com/USFWSMtnPrairie>, watch our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwsmtmprairie/>.

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