

Peer Review Plan for the Prairie Bush Clover (*Lespedeza leptostachya*)

Species Status Assessment Report

About the Document

Title: Prairie Bush Clover (*Lespedeza leptostachya*) Species Status Assessment Draft Report

Purpose: The prairie bush clover is listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The Species Status Assessment (SSA) report will inform the 5-year review conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for this species of plant.

Estimated Dissemination Date of SSA Report: October 2021

About the Peer Review Process

Estimated Timing of Peer Review: June-August 2021

Type of Peer Review: The Service will solicit comments from independent scientific reviewers who will submit individual comments in written form.

Anticipated Number of Reviewers: The Service will request review by at least three but not more than ten independent subject matter experts.

Reviewer Selection Method: The peer reviewers will be selected by the Service. In selecting peer reviewers, we will consider four key factors: expertise, balance, independence, and avoidance of conflict of interest. In accordance with the Service's 2016 Director's memorandum on the peer review process, a Service office not associated with development of the SSA report will select peer reviewers and coordinate the process. We will not seek nominations for peer reviewers from the public.

Necessary Expertise: Peer reviewers should have knowledge of prairie plant biology, distribution, and ecology, or conservation biology. Peer reviewers will be advised that they are not to provide advice on policy.

About Public Participation

Peer review comments will be publicly available. We will publish a 5-year review for the species. The public is invited to submit comments on this peer review plan by contacting the agency person listed below.

Contact

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