

Peer Review Plan for the Florida Salt Marsh Vole Species Status Assessment Report

About the Document

Title: Species Status Assessment Report for the Florida Salt Marsh Vole

Purpose: The Species Status Assessment (SSA) report will inform the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's recovery for the Florida salt marsh vole (*Microtus pennsylvanicus dukecampbelli*).

About the Peer Review Process

Estimated Peer Review Timeline: January 2019 – December 2019

Type of Peer Review: The Service will solicit comments on the draft report from independent scientific reviewers via individual letters. Peer reviewers will submit comments in written form.

Anticipated Number of Reviewers: The Service will request review from at least three individuals.

Reviewer Selection Method: A Service office not associated with development of the SSA report will select peer reviewers and coordinate the process. In selecting peer reviewers, we will consider four key factors: expertise, balance, independence, and avoidance of conflict of interest. We are not seeking nominations for peer reviewers from the public.

Necessary Expertise: Peer reviewers will have expertise on the Florida salt marsh vole or related taxa, the ecosystems in which the species lives, the threats to or management of the species or its habitat, or the analytical methods we used.

Peer reviewers will not be asked to provide recommendations on the listing determination or any other associated rulemaking under the Act. Peer reviewers will be asked to comment specifically on the quality of any information and analyses used or relied on in the document; identify oversights, omissions, and inconsistencies; provide advice on reasonableness of judgments made from the scientific evidence; ensure that scientific uncertainties are clearly identified and characterized, and that potential implications of uncertainties for the technical conclusions drawn are clear; and provide advice on the overall strengths and limitations of the scientific data used in the document.

We will the SSA Report available once peer review and technical review has been incorporated into the document. The released report will be available on the species profile page:

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6984>

This peer review plan is made available to allow the public to monitor our compliance with the Office of Management and Budget's Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review. The public is invited to submit comments on this peer review plan by contacting the agency person listed below.

Contact

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