

Peer Review Plan:

Guadalupe River Mussels Draft Recovery Plan - Peer Review Plan

About the Document

Title: Guadalupe River Mussels Draft Recovery Plan - Peer Review Plan

About the Peer Review Process

Estimated Peer Review Timeline: September 2025

Peer review process:

- We, the Service, will choose multiple, independent peer reviewers and invite comment letters from the peer reviewers.
- Peer reviewers will be requested to review three separate Draft Recovery Plans for the False Spike, Guadalupe Fatmucket, and Guadalupe Orb. All three species are freshwater mussels found only in Central Texas.

Peer reviewers will be selected based on the following criteria:

- **Expertise:** Reviewers will be experts in ecology of freshwater mussels or related species, threats to the species, or a related field.
- **Independence:** Reviewers will not be employed by the Service. Academic and consulting scientists should have sufficient independence from the Service, if the government supports their work.
- **Objectivity:** Reviewers will be recognized by their peers as being objective, open-minded, and thoughtful. The reviewers should be comfortable sharing their knowledge and identifying their knowledge gaps.
- **Advocacy:** Reviewers will not be known or recognized for an affiliation with an advocacy position regarding the protection of this species.
- **Conflict of Interest:** Reviewers will not have any financial or other interest that conflicts with or that could impair their objectivity.

About public participation

Information and comments received through the peer review process will inform and refine the SSA and its analyses.

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.

Contact

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