

DRAFT AND PREDECISIONAL – DO NOT RELEASE

3. Status and Trends

Assess status and trend of the species in 2015 in terms of spatial distribution and range wide abundance trend, and compare to 2010.

The Service will use data on the populations provided by the states and will either be from 2013 or 2014; 2015 data will not be collected until next spring, precluding its use under current timelines. The Service will work with the states to collect the most recent data available.

Comment [TM1]: Same as below so deleted

Comment [WN2]: WAFWA has indicated that they want to work with us (Kevin) collaboratively to do this new trend analysis

Comment [TM3]: Fixed with the add of a new sentence I think

Comment [WN4]: Not sure what this means.

Comment [TM5]: Fixed with the add of a new sentence.

The spatial analyses in 2010 ran one scenario, assuming 100 percent impact overlain over the birds. A potential reanalysis of the data will likely include multiple scenarios and may be at a finer scale. This finer scale will be able to analyze changes potentially at population levels or management zones.

4. New Scientific Information

Assess new scientific information about how known threats may impact the species. Has any of our understanding changed since 2010?

5. New Threats

Determine whether any new threats have emerged. If so, what is their impact and how will we analyze that?

In the process of identifying the major threats, the Service will also evaluate if any new major threats have arisen. If that evaluation indicates an additional threat may be a population level threat, we will attempt to quantify those effects.

6. Geographic scale of analysis

Our base spatial level of analysis is the Priority Areas of Conservation (PACs); our analyses will be scale-able up to populations.

We will conduct all spatial analyses to include predictions of distribution and relative abundance (when possible). These spatial predictions will always include analyses within PACs such that the relative percent population of the PAC and the percent area of the PACs are included.

Comment [WN6]: You are losing me. Not sure what this says.

- a. Our base spatial level of analysis is the PACs; our analyses will be scale-able up to populations.
- b. We anticipate identifying a number of variables that measure PAC integrity such as percent area and percent population within a PAC not at risk, as well as metrics such as the relative contribution each PAC has to the total population, before and after threats. This type of analysis will highlight areas with higher densities of birds and numbers of birds, resulting in a prioritization of the populations across the range.