

From: [Johnson, Dawn](#)
To: [Jodi Bush](#)
Cc: [Steve Gess](#); [Justin Shoemaker](#); betty_grizzle@fws.gov
Subject: RE: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine
Date: Thursday, December 21, 2017 1:44:46 PM
Attachments: [USFWS Wolverine Peer Review Compiled Administrative Record 12-21-2017.pdf](#)
[AmecFW Final Letter - USFWS Wolverine Peer Review 12-21-2017.pdf](#)

All-

Here is the official administrative record. I am assuming there are no Q&As since I haven't heard anything. You will be seeing the final invoice soon as well.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist

Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.

Now owned by Wood plc

Austin/Santa Barbara

D/M 805 252 4370

dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

-

From: Johnson, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 10:15 PM
To: 'Jodi Bush' <jodi_bush@fws.gov>
Cc: 'Steve Gess' <steve_gess@fws.gov>; 'Justin Shoemaker' <justin_shoemaker@fws.gov>; 'betty_grizzle@fws.gov' <betty_grizzle@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

All-

Here is the official submittal of all four reviews and compiled CVs. Let me know if you have any questions or need any clarifications.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist

Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.

Now owned by Wood plc

Austin/Santa Barbara

D/M 805 252 4370

dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

-

From: Johnson, Dawn
Sent: Monday, December 04, 2017 12:23 PM
To: 'Jodi Bush' <jodi_bush@fws.gov>
Cc: Steve Gess <steve_gess@fws.gov>; Justin Shoemaker <justin_shoemaker@fws.gov>; betty_grizzle@fws.gov
Subject: RE: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

All – Here are the first three reviews. I'll have the 4th one on Wednesday and will submit the complete package with CVs and cover letter and all 4 reviews then.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
Now owned by Wood plc
Austin/Santa Barbara
D/M 805 252 4370
dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

-

From: Jodi Bush [mailto:jodi_bush@fws.gov]
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2017 3:03 PM
To: Johnson, Dawn <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com>
Cc: Steve Gess <steve_gess@fws.gov>; Justin Shoemaker <justin_shoemaker@fws.gov>; betty_grizzle@fws.gov
Subject: Re: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

Ok. Thanks. JB

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 30, 2017, at 12:55 PM, Johnson, Dawn <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com> wrote:

Jodi-

I have one review back and the 2nd one is almost done. Unfortunately, 2 of the 4 reviewers have had major medical issues the last month. I'll have the 3rd review on Monday and the 4th review Wednesday at the latest. How about I send you the 3 finished ones on Monday and send along the 4th once I have it.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
Now owned by Wood plc
Austin/Santa Barbara
D/M 805 252 4370
dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

From: Bush, Jodi [mailto:jodi_bush@fws.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 5:25 PM

To: Johnson, Dawn <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com>

Cc: Steve Gess <steve_gess@fws.gov>; Morehouse, Kari
<kari.morehouse@woodplc.com>; Justin Shoemaker <justin_shoemaker@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER
Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American
Wolverine

We need to proceed asap. We will ask that you send us the reviews as you get them please so we can start our work. Thanks. JB

Jodi L. Bush
Office Supervisor
Montana State Ecological Services Office
585 Shepard Way, Suite 1
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-5225, ext.205

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 5:43 PM, Johnson, Dawn
<dawn.johnson@woodplc.com> wrote:

Two have indicated they need until 1 December.

Dawn Johnson PhD
Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler
Environment & Infrastructure Americas

D 805-252-4370

----- Original message -----

From: "Bush, Jodi" <jodi_bush@fws.gov>

Date: 10/23/2017 17:13 (GMT-06:00)
To: "Johnson, Dawn" <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com>
Cc: Steve Gess <steve_gess@fws.gov>, "Morehouse, Kari" <kari.morehouse@woodplc.com>
Subject: Re: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

Dawn. Have you heard anything? We need to get moving on this review. JB

Jodi L. Bush
Office Supervisor
Montana State Ecological Services Office
585 Shepard Way, Suite 1
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-5225, ext.205

On Fri, Oct 20, 2017 at 3:03 PM, Johnson, Dawn <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com> wrote:

Thank you! I'm still waiting on confirmation that all the reviewers can meet the Monday after Thanksgiving deadline.

I am sure the reviewers will want access to digital copies of all the references cited like with previous reviews.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD
Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
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D/M 805 252 4370
dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

From: Steve Gess [mailto:steve_gess@fws.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 11:18 AM
To: Johnson, Dawn <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com>; Vu, Cuong <cuong.vu@woodplc.com>
Cc: Goldschmidt, Aaron P <aaron.goldschmidt@woodplc.com>; Morehouse, Kari <kari.morehouse@woodplc.com>; Jodi Bush <jodi_bush@fws.gov>
Subject: RE: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

Dawn, Attached is the executed Task order for the Wolverine SSA PEER review as per your proposal. I will distribute the SSA sometime today when I receive it from Jodi Bush. Please coordinate all of your effort with Jodi bush and her team. This order authorizes you to proceed.

Thanks again.

Steven C. Gess, CPPO
Contracting Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Region 6 Lakewood CO.
303-236-4334
Steve_gess@fws.gov

From: Johnson, Dawn [mailto:dawn.johnson@woodplc.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 5:31 PM
To: Gess, Steve; Vu, Cuong
Cc: Goldschmidt, Aaron P; Johnson, Dawn; Morehouse, Kari; Jodi Bush
Subject: RE: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

Steve-

Thank you! I apologize for not being able to secure a 5th reviewer, but glad it worked out. Here is revised schedule. There are two caveats – the 30 days for reviewers lands delivery right in Thanksgiving, so I moved to Monday after. And I need to check with the reviewers to make sure they can accommodate shifting up a week. I know one had concerns about anything in October or early November. So I provide this with a caveat about the reviewers' confirming it works for them.

Task	Calendar Days After Award (Previous Task)	Due Date (Assuming 23 October Award)
Task 1 (Provide Materials)	1 (-)	24 October
Task 2 (Peer Review)	35 (30 but Thanksgiving)	27 November
Task 3 (Provide Reviews)	38 (3)	30 November
Task 4 (Q&A Period)	48 (10)	11 December
Task 5 (Official Record)	49 (1)	12 December

From: Gess, Steve [mailto:steve_gess@fws.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 11:09 AM

To: Vu, Cuong <cuong.vu@woodplc.com>

Cc: Goldschmidt, Aaron P <aaron.goldschmidt@woodplc.com>; Johnson, Dawn <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com>; Morehouse, Kari <kari.morehouse@woodplc.com>; Jodi Bush <jodi_bush@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

Dawn, Congratulations! AMEC's proposal in response to the RFP for WOLVERINE PEER review was evaluated to be the Best Value to receive the Task order in the amount of your proposal for \$27,829.00 . I will prepare the task order in the next day or two but prior to doing so, I am requesting for you to revise your timeline using an OCTOBER 23,2017 start date. Please send me your revised timeline so I can incorporate it into the task order..

Again thanks for your excellent proposal. We look forward to working with you and AMEC on this very important PEER review..

Steven C. Gess, CPPO
Contracting Officer
US Fish & Wildlife- Region 6
303-236-4334

On Mon, Oct 16, 2017 at 1:41 PM, Vu, Cuong <cuong.vu@woodplc.com> wrote:

Mr. Gess:

Amec Foster Wheeler is pleased to submit its proposal in response to the subject RFP. Our apologies as we were only able to identify four peer reviewers for this requirement.

Please let us know if is acceptable or if you require additional information. Thanks in advance for your consideration.

Regards,

Cuong Vu
Government Contract Manager
Office: +1 (610) 828-8100
Direct: +1 (610) 877-6021
www.woodplc.com

From: Steve Gess [mailto:steve_gess@fws.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2017 2:28 PM

To: Johnson, Dawn <Dawn.Johnson@amecfw.com>

Cc: Jodi Bush <jodi_bush@fws.gov>; Justin Shoemaker
<justin_shoemaker@fws.gov>

Subject: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001
for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the
North American Wolverine

Dawn, Region 6 US FWS received permission to use the new Scientific Studies BPA, AMEC was awarded recently. As a result I am requesting a formal proposal to conduct a PEER review on the subject Draft Species status assessment for the North American Wolverine. The RFP and Statement of work are attached. Proposals are due October 16, 2017. This will be a competitive process.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Steven C. Gess, CPPO
Contracting Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Region 6 Lakewood CO.
303-236-4334
Steve_gess@fws.gov

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Peer Review of Species Status Assessment of North American Wolverine

Administrative Record Summary

21 December 2017

Email Log

Summary of emails between Dawn Johnson with Amec Foster Wheeler and US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and between Dawn Johnson and the peer reviewers.

Recipients	Date	Topic
From: USFWS (Steve Gess) To: Amec Foster Wheeler	10/19/2017	Executed Task Order, including updated start date (Email 1)
From: USFWS (Steve Gess) To: Dawn Johnson	10/24/2017	Provided Draft SSA (Email 2)
From: Dawn Johnson To: Peer Reviewers	10/24/2017	Provided the draft SSA (Email 3)
Between USFWS (Jodi Bush) and Dawn Johnson	10/24/2017	Confirming that two reviewers needed until December 1 (Email 4)
Between USFWS (Caitlin Snyder) and Dawn Johnson	11/15/2017	Regarding new wolverine publication (Email 5)
From: Dawn Johnson To: Peer Reviewers	11/15/2017	Regarding new wolverine publication (Email 6)
Between Dawn Johnson And Peer Reviewers	11/29/2017 Thru 12/6/2017	Submittals and approvals of minor edits for each individual peer review (Emails not included in files to preserve anonymity).
Between USFWS (Jodi Bush) and Dawn Johnson	11/30/2017	Update regarding reviewers' schedules (Email 7)
From: Dawn Johnson To: USFWS	12/4/2017	Submission of 3 of 4 reviews ((Email 8)
From: Dawn Johnson To: USFWS	12/6/2017	Official submission of 4 reviews (Email 9)
From: Dawn Johnson To: USFWS	12/21/2017	Submission of the administrative record (this file).

Also included are the two progress reports, the template provided to reviewers, and the statement of work from Amec Foster Wheeler to the reviewers.

Johnson, Dawn

From: Steve Gess <steve_gess@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 11:18 AM
To: Johnson, Dawn; Vu, Cuong
Cc: Goldschmidt, Aaron P; Morehouse, Kari; Jodi Bush
Subject: RE: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine
Attachments: Wolverine PEER TASK ORDER AMEC F17PA00026.pdf; AmecFW Price Proposal - USFWS Wolverine SSA_10-16-2017 FINAL.pdf; AmecFW Proposal - USFWS Wolverine SSA_10-16-2017 FINAL.pdf

Dawn, Attached is the executed Task order for the Wolverine SSA PEER review as per your proposal. I will distribute the SSA sometime today when I receive it from Jodi Bush. Please coordinate all of your effort with Jodi bush and her team. This order authorizes you to proceed.

Thanks again.

Steven C. Gess, CPPO
Contracting Officer
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Region 6 Lakewood CO.
303-236-4334
Steve_gess@fws.gov

From: Johnson, Dawn [mailto:dawn.johnson@woodplc.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 5:31 PM
To: Gess, Steve; Vu, Cuong
Cc: Goldschmidt, Aaron P; Johnson, Dawn; Morehouse, Kari; Jodi Bush
Subject: RE: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

Steve-

Thank you! I apologize for not being able to secure a 5th reviewer, but glad it worked out. Here is revised schedule. There are two caveats – the 30 days for reviewers lands delivery right in Thanksgiving, so I moved to Monday after. And I need to check with the reviewers to make sure they can accommodate shifting up a week. I know one had concerns about anything in October or early November. So I provide this with a caveat about the reviewers' confirming it works for them.

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Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 11:09 AM

To: Vu, Cuong <cuong.vu@woodplc.com>

Cc: Goldschmidt, Aaron P <aaron.goldschmidt@woodplc.com>; Johnson, Dawn <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com>; Morehouse, Kari <kari.morehouse@woodplc.com>; Jodi Bush <jodi_bush@fws.gov>

Subject: Re: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

Dawn, Congratulations! AMEC's proposal in response to the RFP for WOLVERINE PEER review was evaluated to be the Best Value to receive the Task order in the amount of your proposal for \$27,829.00 . I will prepare the task order in the next day or two but prior to doing so, I am requesting for you to revise your timeline using an OCTOBER 23,2017 start date. Please send me your revised timeline so I can incorporate it into the task order. Again thanks for your excellent proposal. We look forward to working with you and AMEC on this very important PEER review..

Steven C. Gess, CPPO
Contracting Officer
US Fish & Wildlife- Region 6
303-236-4334

On Mon, Oct 16, 2017 at 1:41 PM, Vu, Cuong <cuong.vu@woodplc.com> wrote:

Mr. Gess:

Amec Foster Wheeler is pleased to submit its proposal in response to the subject RFP. Our apologies as we were only able to identify four peer reviewers for this requirement.

Please let us know if is acceptable or if you require additional information. Thanks in advance for your consideration.

Regards,

Cuong Vu

Government Contract Manager
Office: +1 (610) 828-8100

Johnson, Dawn

From: Steve Gess <steve_gess@fws.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 7:39 AM
To: Johnson, Dawn
Subject: FW: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine
Attachments: Draft Wolverine SSA Report_Oct 23 2017.pdf

Dawn, see the note below from Jodi Bush--- Here is the SSA material for the Wolverine.

From: Bush, Jodi [mailto:jodi_bush@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2017 4:24 PM
To: Steve Gess
Cc: Justin Shoemaker; Betty Grizzle
Subject: Re: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

Here is the SSA report for Dawn. The literature will follow directly to Dawn via mail from Betty Grizzly as it is on DVDs. Please remind Dawn of the timeline. Thanks. JB

Jodi L. Bush
Office Supervisor
Montana State Ecological Services Office
585 Shepard Way, Suite 1
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-5225, ext.205

On Thu, Oct 19, 2017 at 10:17 AM, Steve Gess <steve_gess@fws.gov> wrote:

Dawn, Attached is the executed Task order for the Wolverine SSA PEER review as per your proposal. I will distribute the SSA sometime today when I receive it from Jodi Bush. Please coordinate all of your effort with Jodi bush and her team. This order authorizes you to proceed.

Thanks again.

Steven C. Gess, CPPO

Contracting Officer

US Fish & Wildlife Service

Region 6 Lakewood CO.

303-236-4334

Johnson, Dawn

From: Johnson, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 10:25 PM
To: 'beasley@srel.uga.edu'; 'harrison@maine.edu'; 'boyce@ualberta.ca'; 'jfrey@nmsu.edu'
Subject: RE: Wolverine peer review
Attachments: Draft Wolverine SSA Report_Oct 23 2017.pdf; Individual Review Template_Wolverine SSA_10-23-2017.docx; W9 December 2014.pdf; EFT_form_for_AP_Vendors_US-rev._01-2015.xlsx; AMEC_SOW for Wolverine Peer Reviewers_10-22-2017.doc

All-

Attached is the draft SSA as a pdf. I am supposed to be receiving all the literature cited tomorrow but I am traveling with little wifi capability, so I won't be able to get those files somewhere for you until Friday or possibly Monday. I am also assuming at least one of you wants the draft SSA as a Word document instead of a pdf, so I have requested that as well.

In the meantime, here is the pdf version and the Word template for you to put your responses in. Let me know if you have any questions.

You have until December 1st, but if any of you can get me your comments before then that would be great. I will randomly assign your reviewer number as I get the reviews.

On a financial note, I'll need a W9 and EFT (for electronic payment) from each of you eventually, so I've attached them here as well. I'll send out an invoice template closer to the time when I get your reviews back. Mark and Jennifer – you both might already be in the system, so let me check before you send to me again.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
Now owned by Wood plc
Austin/Santa Barbara
D/M 805 252 4370
dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

From: Johnson, Dawn
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 4:02 PM
To: 'beasley@srel.uga.edu' <beasley@srel.uga.edu>; 'harrison@maine.edu' <harrison@maine.edu>; 'boyce@ualberta.ca' <boyce@ualberta.ca>; 'jfrey@nmsu.edu' <jfrey@nmsu.edu>
Subject: Wolverine peer review

All-

The USFWS has awarded us the Wolverine peer review. They should be sending the draft SSA on Monday. Is there anyone that will need more time than the Monday after Thanksgiving? They awarded quickly and I have asked them to give me a chance to confirm our delivery date of the reviews.

I will also provide you a template for your response to the questions for the Draft SSA when I provide you the draft SSA.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist

Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.

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D/M 805 252 4370

dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

Johnson, Dawn

From: Johnson, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 9:43 PM
To: Bush, Jodi
Cc: Steve Gess; Morehouse, Kari; Justin Shoemaker
Subject: RE: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

Understood.

Dawn Johnson PhD
Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler
Environment & Infrastructure Americas

D 805-252-4370

----- Original message -----

From: "Bush, Jodi" <jodi_bush@fws.gov>
Date: 10/24/2017 17:25 (GMT-06:00)
To: "Johnson, Dawn" <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com>
Cc: Steve Gess <steve_gess@fws.gov>, "Morehouse, Kari" <kari.morehouse@woodplc.com>, Justin Shoemaker <justin_shoemaker@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

We need to proceed asap. We will ask that you send us the reviews as you get them please so we can start our work. Thanks. JB

Jodi L. Bush
Office Supervisor
Montana State Ecological Services Office
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Two have indicated they need until 1 December.

Dawn Johnson PhD
Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler
Environment & Infrastructure Americas

D 805-252-4370

----- Original message -----

From: "Bush, Jodi" <jodi_bush@fws.gov>

Date: 10/23/2017 17:13 (GMT-06:00)

To: "Johnson, Dawn" <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com>

Cc: Steve Gess <steve_gess@fws.gov>, "Morehouse, Kari" <kari.morehouse@woodplc.com>

Subject: Re: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

Dawn. Have you heard anything? We need to get moving on this review. JB

Jodi L. Bush
Office Supervisor
Montana State Ecological Services Office
585 Shepard Way, Suite 1
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-5225, ext.205

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Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist

Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.

Now owned by Wood plc

Austin/Santa Barbara

D/M 805 252 4370

dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

Johnson, Dawn

From: Grizzle, Betty <betty_grizzle@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2017 12:00 PM
To: Johnson, Dawn
Subject: Re: Checking in
Attachments: Heim_et_al-2017-Ecology_and_Evolution.sup-2.pdf; Heim_et_al-2017-Ecology_and_Evolution.sup-1.pdf; Heim et al 2017.pdf

Thanks for the reply.

Just an FYI - another paper re wolverines (Canadian Rockies) was published recently. I am attaching it here (and the Supplemental Material) as it is Open Access. The reviewers may or may not be interested in receiving this. I will be reviewing this for any new, relevant information relative to our Status Review.

On Wed, Nov 15, 2017 at 9:24 AM, Johnson, Dawn <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com> wrote:

I believe so. I will check in with everyone on Friday but no one has told me that will be a problem so far.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist

Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.

Now owned by Wood plc

Austin/Santa Barbara

D/M 805 252 4370

dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

From: Grizzle, Betty [mailto:betty_grizzle@fws.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2017 11:22 AM
To: dawn.johnson@woodplc.com
Subject: Checking in

Hi Dawn - Just wanted to check-in with you to see how the peer review process is going. Are we still on track to review comments by December 1?

Thanks,

Betty

--

Betty J. Grizzle, D.Env.

Fish and Wildlife Biologist

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office

2177 Salk Ave, Suite 250

Carlsbad, CA 92008

760-431-9440, ext. 215

760-431-5901 fax

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Johnson, Dawn

From: Johnson, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2017 1:13 PM
To: 'beasley@srel.uga.edu'; 'harrison@maine.edu'; 'boyce@ualberta.ca'; 'jfrey@nmsu.edu'
Subject: RE: Wolverine peer review
Attachments: Heim_et_al-2017-Ecology_and_Evolution.sup-2.pdf; Heim_et_al-2017-Ecology_and_Evolution.sup-1.pdf; Heim et al 2017.pdf

I just received the following pdfs from the USFWS. Apparently this is a newly published wolverine paper that may or may not be helpful to you.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
Now owned by Wood plc
Austin/Santa Barbara
D/M 805 252 4370
dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

From: Johnson, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 10:25 PM
To: 'beasley@srel.uga.edu' <beasley@srel.uga.edu>; 'harrison@maine.edu' <harrison@maine.edu>; 'boyce@ualberta.ca' <boyce@ualberta.ca>; 'jfrey@nmsu.edu' <jfrey@nmsu.edu>
Subject: RE: Wolverine peer review

All-

Attached is the draft SSA as a pdf. I am supposed to be receiving all the literature cited tomorrow but I am traveling with little wifi capability, so I won't be able to get those files somewhere for you until Friday or possibly Monday. I am also assuming at least one of you wants the draft SSA as a Word document instead of a pdf, so I have requested that as well.

In the meantime, here is the pdf version and the Word template for you to put your responses in. Let me know if you have any questions.

You have until December 1st, but if any of you can get me your comments before then that would be great. I will randomly assign your reviewer number as I get the reviews.

On a financial note, I'll need a W9 and EFT (for electronic payment) from each of you eventually, so I've attached them here as well. I'll send out an invoice template closer to the time when I get your reviews back. Mark and Jennifer – you both might already be in the system, so let me check before you send to me again.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
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Austin/Santa Barbara
D/M 805 252 4370
dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

Johnson, Dawn

From: Jodi Bush <jodi_bush@fws.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2017 3:03 PM
To: Johnson, Dawn
Cc: Steve Gess; Justin Shoemaker; betty_grizzle@fws.gov
Subject: Re: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

Ok. Thanks. JB

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 30, 2017, at 12:55 PM, Johnson, Dawn <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com> wrote:

Jodi-

I have one review back and the 2nd one is almost done. Unfortunately, 2 of the 4 reviewers have had major medical issues the last month. I'll have the 3rd review on Monday and the 4th review Wednesday at the latest. How about I send you the 3 finished ones on Monday and send along the 4th once I have it.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
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Austin/Santa Barbara
D/M 805 252 4370
dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

From: Bush, Jodi [mailto:jodi_bush@fws.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2017 5:25 PM
To: Johnson, Dawn <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com>
Cc: Steve Gess <steve_gess@fws.gov>; Morehouse, Kari <kari.morehouse@woodplc.com>; Justin Shoemaker <justin_shoemaker@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

We need to proceed asap. We will ask that you send us the reviews as you get them please so we can start our work. Thanks. JB

Jodi L. Bush
Office Supervisor
Montana State Ecological Services Office
585 Shepard Way, Suite 1
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-5225, ext.205

Johnson, Dawn

From: Johnson, Dawn
Sent: Monday, December 04, 2017 12:23 PM
To: 'Jodi Bush'
Cc: Steve Gess; Justin Shoemaker; betty_grizzle@fws.gov
Subject: RE: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine
Attachments: Individual Review 3_Wolverine SSA_12-2017.pdf; Individual Review 1_Wolverine SSA_12-2017.pdf; Individual Review 2_Wolverine SSA_12-2017.pdf

All – Here are the first three reviews. I'll have the 4th one on Wednesday and will submit the complete package with CVs and cover letter and all 4 reviews then.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
Now owned by Wood plc
Austin/Santa Barbara
D/M 805 252 4370
dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

From: Jodi Bush [mailto:jodi_bush@fws.gov]
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2017 3:03 PM
To: Johnson, Dawn <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com>
Cc: Steve Gess <steve_gess@fws.gov>; Justin Shoemaker <justin_shoemaker@fws.gov>; betty_grizzle@fws.gov
Subject: Re: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

Ok. Thanks. JB

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 30, 2017, at 12:55 PM, Johnson, Dawn <dawn.johnson@woodplc.com> wrote:

Jodi-

I have one review back and the 2nd one is almost done. Unfortunately, 2 of the 4 reviewers have had major medical issues the last month. I'll have the 3rd review on Monday and the 4th review Wednesday at the latest. How about I send you the 3 finished ones on Monday and send along the 4th once I have it.

Sincerely,

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dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

Johnson, Dawn

From: Johnson, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 10:15 PM
To: 'Jodi Bush'
Cc: 'Steve Gess'; 'Justin Shoemaker'; 'betty_grizzle@fws.gov'
Subject: RE: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine
Attachments: AmecFW Letter Report - USFWS Wolverine Peer Review_12-6-2017.pdf; Compiled_CVs.pdf; Individual Review 4_Wolverine SSA_12-2017.pdf; Individual Review 1_Wolverine SSA_12-2017.pdf; Individual Review 2_Wolverine SSA_12-2017.pdf; Individual Review 3_Wolverine SSA_12-2017.pdf

All-

Here is the official submittal of all four reviews and compiled CVs. Let me know if you have any questions or need any clarifications.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
Now owned by Wood plc
Austin/Santa Barbara
D/M 805 252 4370
dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

From: Johnson, Dawn
Sent: Monday, December 04, 2017 12:23 PM
To: 'Jodi Bush' <jodi_bush@fws.gov>
Cc: Steve Gess <steve_gess@fws.gov>; Justin Shoemaker <justin_shoemaker@fws.gov>; betty_grizzle@fws.gov
Subject: RE: AMEC -Request for Proposal, Reference Number 0092717001 for PEER Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the North American Wolverine

All – Here are the first three reviews. I'll have the 4th one on Wednesday and will submit the complete package with CVs and cover letter and all 4 reviews then.

Sincerely,

Dawn Johnson PhD

Senior Biologist
Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
Now owned by Wood plc
Austin/Santa Barbara
D/M 805 252 4370
dawn.johnson@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com

SCOPE OF WORK

Peer Review of the Draft Species Status Assessment for the North American Wolverine

PRIME CONTRACTOR: Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.

Amec Foster Wheeler is requesting support from four peer reviewers to complete a formal, independent, external, scientific peer review for the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) of a draft species status assessment (SSA) as part of comprehensive evaluation of the biological status of the North American wolverine (*Gulo gulo luscus*) and its viability as a species, currently under consideration for listing as a Distinct Population Segment (DPS) under the Endangered Species Act.

In compliance with a Court order that remanded our previous withdrawal of a proposed rule to list a Distinct Population Segment of the North American wolverine (79 FR 47522; August 13, 2014), the Service will prepare either a revised proposed rule to list as a threatened or endangered species under the Act, or a revised withdrawal of the previous proposed rule (78 FR 7864; February 4, 2013). The SSA report will be used to inform a decision (to be published in the *Federal Register*) to classify the North American wolverine as threatened, endangered or “not warranted” under the Act. <https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp0/profile/speciesProfile?spcode=A0FA>

Each panelist should anticipate completing their peer review by December 1, 2017. Peer reviewers should have demonstrated expertise (i.e., more than 10 years professional expertise) with carnivores (particularly mustelids and), mammalian population modeling, mesocarnivore demographic management, metapopulation genetics, and/or climate change in Mountain West of the United States. Reviewers will have previously conducted similar reviews or regularly provided reviews of research and conservation articles for the scientific literature.

Amec Foster Wheeler is requesting each panelist be aware of the requirements for independence and lack of conflicts of interest with respect to this project and the USFWS. Potential conflicts of interest would likely include: employment or affiliation with the Service, the States of California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, or Wyoming, or the Canadian Federal government; and peer reviewers, who have been or are directly or indirectly employed by any organization that has either litigated the federal government concerning wolverines or taken a position on one side or the other about the status of the North American wolverine in the contiguous United States. In addition, individuals who served as peer reviewers for previous proposed rules or who were participants in the April 2-3, 2014 facilitated wolverine workshop held by the Service should be disqualified from this peer review process. Finally, the reviewers should have no financial or other conflicts of interest with the outcome or implications of the report. If you feel you cannot be independent or have a conflict of interest, please let me know immediately. See the requirements (extracted from the OMB Memorandum on Peer Reviews, 2004) at the end of this document.

Services Required: (Period of Performance: October 20 – December 31, 2017)

- 1) Peer Review: Reviewers will consider and evaluate the provided draft SSA. Each reviewer will write up their response to the questions, as well as any other comments. Amec Foster Wheeler will provide a template, communicate between the USFWS and the reviewers (to ensure the USFWS does not know which reviewer makes which

comments/questions), and compile the individual reviews and submit deliverables to the USFWS. If requested by the reviewers, Amec Foster Wheeler can host a conference call among the reviewers.

- 2) Answers to Questions: Reviewers will be available to respond to any inquiries from the USFWS and provide a final response (if any changes are made). Typically, these are just requests for clarification and/or the USFWS providing additional information to assist with your review.

Each panelist should provide a lump sum estimate. Each panelist must also provide a Curriculum Vitae (preferably in Word if we need to edit anything for the proposal – final versions would be provided to you if edited).

Questions for Peer Review

Available Data

(1) Please identify any oversights or omissions of data or information, and their relevance to the assessment. Are there other sources of information or studies that were not included that are relevant to assessing current and future threats to this species and not repetitive of other information or studies already included? What are they and how are they relevant?

(2) Provide advice on the overall strengths and limitations of the scientific data used in the document. Is the information presented in the SSA report explicit about assumptions and limitations of, and concerns regarding, the data, and are these appropriately qualified or explained? Are there concerns that the Service did not identify, and if so, how relevant are these concerns to the assessment of the North American wolverine? Are there any inconsistencies in how the data are presented or assessed?

Analysis of Available Data

(3) Have the assumptions and methods used in the SSA report been clearly and logically stated in light of the best available information? If not, please identify the specific assumptions and methods that are unclear or illogical.

(4) Are there demonstrable errors of fact or interpretation? Have the authors of the SSA report provided reasonable and scientifically sound interpretations and syntheses from the scientific information presented in the report? Are there instances in the SSA report where a different but equally reasonable and sound interpretation might be reached that differs from that provided by the Service? If any instances are found where this is the case, please provide the specifics regarding those particular concerns.

(5) Provide feedback on the inclusion and portrayal of uncertainty in the SSA report. Have the scientific uncertainties presented and the analyses conducted been clearly identified and has the degree of uncertainty been appropriately characterized? If not, please identify any specific concerns.

(6) Does the SSA report adequately consider what the species needs to maintain viability in terms of resiliency, redundancy, and representation?

Independence. In its narrowest sense, independence in a reviewer means that the reviewer was not involved in producing the draft document to be reviewed. However, for peer review of some documents, a broader view of independence is necessary to assure credibility of the process. Reviewers are generally not employed by the agency or office producing the document. A related issue is whether government-funded scientists in universities and consulting firms have sufficient independence from the federal agencies that support their work to be appropriate peer reviewers for those agencies. This concern can be mitigated in situations where an agency awards grants through a competitive process that includes peer review; the agency's potential to influence the scientist's research is limited. As such, when a scientist is awarded a government research grant through an investigator-initiated, peer reviewed competition, there generally should be no question as to that scientist's ability to offer independent scientific advice to the agency on other projects. This contrasts, for example, to a situation in which a scientist has a consulting or contractual arrangement with the agency or office sponsoring a peer review. Likewise, when the agency and a researcher work together (e.g., through a cooperative agreement) to design or implement a study, there is less independence from the agency. Furthermore, if a scientist has repeatedly served as a reviewer for the same agency, some may question whether that scientist is sufficiently independent from the agency to be employed as a peer reviewer on agency-sponsored projects.

Conflict of Interest. The National Academy of Sciences defines "conflict of interest" as any financial or other interest that conflicts with the service of an individual on the review panel because it could impair the individual's objectivity or could create an unfair competitive advantage for a person or organization. Agencies shall make a special effort to examine prospective reviewers' potential financial conflicts, including significant investments, consulting arrangements, employer affiliations and grants/contracts. Financial ties of potential reviewers to regulated entities (e.g., businesses), other stakeholders, and regulatory agencies shall be scrutinized when the information being reviewed is likely to be relevant to regulatory policy. The inquiry into potential conflicts goes beyond financial investments and business relationships and includes work as an expert witness, consulting arrangements, honoraria and sources of grants and contracts. To evaluate any real or perceived conflicts of interest with potential reviewers and questions regarding the independence of reviewers, agencies are referred to federal ethics requirements, applicable standards issued by the Office of Government Ethics, and the prevailing practices of the National Academy of Sciences. Specifically, peer reviewers who are federal employees (including special government employees) are subject to federal requirements governing conflicts of interest. With respect to reviewers who are not federal employees, agencies shall adopt or adapt the NAS policy for committee selection with respect to evaluating conflicts of interest. Both the NAS and the federal government recognize that under certain circumstances some conflict may be unavoidable in order to obtain the necessary expertise. To improve the transparency of the process, when an agency determines that it is necessary to use a reviewer with a real or perceived conflict of interest, the agency should consider publicly disclosing those conflicts. In such situations, the agency shall inform potential reviewers of such disclosure at the time they are recruited.

***Peer Review of the Scientific Findings in USFWS Species Status Assessment
Evaluating the Status of the North American Wolverine (Gulo gulo luscus)***

**Reviewer #
December 2017**

Introductory Remarks (if any)

Available Data:

1. *Please identify any oversights or omissions of data or information, and their relevance to the assessment. Are there others sources of information or studies that were not included that are relevant to assessing the viability of this species and not repetitive of other information or studies already included? What are they and how are they relevant?*
2. *Provide advice on the overall strengths and limitations of the scientific data used in the document. Is the information presented in the SSA report explicit about assumptions and limitations of, and concerns regarding, the data, and are these appropriately qualified or explained? Are there concerns that the Service did not identify, and if so, how relevant are these concerns to the assessment of the North American wolverine? Are there any inconsistencies in how the data are presented or assessed?*

Analysis of Available Data:

3. *Have the assumptions and methods used in the SSA report been clearly and logically stated in light of the best available information? If not, please identify the specific assumptions and methods that are unclear or illogical.*
4. *Are there demonstrable errors of fact or interpretation? Have the authors of the SSA report provided reasonable and scientifically sound interpretations and syntheses from the scientific information presented in the report? Are there instances in the SSA report where a different but equally reasonable and sound interpretation might be reached that differs from that provided by the Service? If any instances are found where this is the case, please provide the specifics regarding those particular concerns.*
5. *Provide feedback on the inclusion and portrayal of uncertainty in the SSA report. Have the scientific uncertainties presented and the analyses conducted been clearly identified and has the degree of uncertainty been appropriately characterized? If not, please identify any specific concerns.*
6. *Does the SSA report adequately consider what the species needs to maintain viability in terms of resiliency, redundancy, and representation?*

***Peer Review of the Scientific Findings in USFWS Species Status Assessment
Evaluating the Status of the North American Wolverine (Gulo gulo luscus)***

General Comments (if any)

Literature Cited (if any)

PROGRESS REPORT #1

Reporting Period for Services Provided: October 19, 2017 – November 17, 2017

Peer Review of Species Status Assessment of North American Wolverine

<u>GSA CONTRACT #:</u>	GS-10F-0230J	<u>PROJECT PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:</u>	10/19/17 to 12/16/17
<u>USFWS BPA AGREEMENT #:</u>	F12PA00005	<u>PREPARED FOR:</u>	Jodi Bush, Project Manager
<u>ORDER #:</u>	F17PA00026	<u>PREPARED BY:</u>	Dawn Johnson, Project Manager
<u>REQUISITION REFERENCE #:</u>	0040364761		Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
			Amec Foster Wheeler Project #: GSA314C003

1. Services Provided during this Reporting Period:

Task 1: Completed October 25, 2017.

Task 2: Started October 24, 2017. Scheduled for completion November 27, 2017.

Task 3: Scheduled for December 1, 2017.

Task 4: Scheduled for December 11, 2017.

Task 5: Scheduled for December 12, 2017.

2. Task Completion:

Task # / Deliverable		Task Price	Current % Complete
1: Obtain Materials		\$900.30	100%
2: Conduct Peer Review		\$20,926.79	
3: Provide Individual Reviews		\$3,001.00	
4: Facilitate Q&A		\$1,500.50	
5: Official Record		\$1,500.50	
Total:		\$27,829.09	\$900.30

Invoices:

#1 M20103### 11/22/2017 \$900.30 (100% Task 1; Line 00010)

PROGRESS REPORT #2

Reporting Period for Services Provided: November 18, 2017 – December 21, 2017

Peer Review of Species Status Assessment of North American Wolverine

<u>GSA CONTRACT #:</u>	GS-10F-0230J	<u>PROJECT PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:</u>	10/19/17 to 12/16/17
<u>USFWS BPA AGREEMENT #:</u>	F12PA00005	<u>PREPARED FOR:</u>	Jodi Bush, Project Manager
<u>ORDER #:</u>	F17PA00026	<u>PREPARED BY:</u>	Dawn Johnson, Project Manager
<u>REQUISITION REFERENCE #:</u>	0040364761		Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
			Amec Foster Wheeler Project #: GSA314C003

1. Services Provided during this Reporting Period:

- Task 1: Completed October 25, 2017.
- Task 2: Started October 24, 2017. Completed December 6, 2017.
- Task 3: Completed December 6, 2017.
- Task 4: Completed December 14, 2017. No Q&As from USFWS.
- Task 5: Completed December 21, 2017.

2. Task Completion:

Task # / Deliverable		Task Price	Current % Complete
1: Obtain Materials		\$900.30	100%
2: Conduct Peer Review		\$20,926.79	100%
3: Provide Individual Reviews		\$3,001.00	100%
4: Facilitate Q&A		\$1,500.50	100%
5: Official Record		\$1,500.50	100%
Total:		\$27,829.09	\$27,839.09

Invoices:

#1 M20103### 11/22/2017 \$900.30 (100% Task 1; Line 00010)

#1 M20103### 12/22/2017 \$26,928.79 (100% Task 1; Line 00010)

December 21, 2017



Ms. Noreen Walsh

Regional Director
US Fish & Wildlife Service
Mountain-Prairie Region
134 Union Boulevard
Lakewood, CO 80228

SUBJECT: Project: Peer Review (without attribution) of the Scientific Findings in the Species Status Assessment for the North American Wolverine (*Gulo gulo luscus*).

Dear Ms. Walsh,

In accordance with the Statement of Work dated September 21, 2017, Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. (Amec Foster Wheeler) is pleased to submit the administrative/official record for the completed *Peer Review (without attribution) of the Scientific Findings in U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Species Status Assessment for the North American Wolverine (Gulo gulo luscus)*.

The administrative record includes a log of relevant emails, along with copies of key emails. It also includes the two progress reports. The reviews and CVs are not included in this submission as there were no changes from the original submission of those items.

Please contact Dawn Johnson at (805) 252-4370 if you have any questions or need clarification on the process or for any of the reviews.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dawn L. Johnson".

Dawn L. Johnson, PhD
Project Manager, Senior Biologist

Enclosures: Administrative Record

Cc: Caitlin Snyder, USFWS