

Peer Review of Scientific Information

Sand Dune Phacelia (*Phacelia argentea*) Draft Species Status Assessment Report

About the Document

Title: Sand Dune Phacelia (*Phacelia argentea*) Draft Species Status Assessment Report

Estimated Dissemination Date of the Assessment: Nov. 10th, 2020

Estimated Peer Review Timeframe: 4 Weeks

Type of review: Influential

About the Peer Review Process

In accordance with the requirements of the Office of Management and Budget's Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review and the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service's interagency peer review policy, we will initiate peer review of the science relevant to knowledge of the ecology and biology of sand dune phacelia.

The Service will solicit comments from at least three independent scientific reviewers who will submit individual comments in written form. Peer reviewers will be selected by the Service. We will solicit reviews from experts who are willing to commit to providing an objective review within the needed time frame. Reviewers will be selected by the Service from specialists in the relevant areas of expertise. We will strive to strike a balance between reviewers on one side of the decision with those on the other side and will avoid selecting peer reviewers who are likely to experience personal gain or loss as a result of the Service's decision. Service employees will not be used for this peer review. Peer reviewers will not be compensated for their review.

The Service will provide each peer reviewer with information necessary to complete the peer review. However, we will ask the peer reviewers to determine whether the relevant data were considered and whether they were considered appropriately. We will also ask them to evaluate uncertainty and the strength of the data and conclusions. Deadline for receipt of reviews will be clearly stated.

Will the public and/or scientific or professional societies be asked to nominate peer reviewers?: No.

Are waivers or deferrals being invoked? No

Estimated Start Date of Peer Review: November 10th, 2020

About Public Participation

This peer review plan is made available on this website to allow the public to monitor our compliance with the Office of Management and Budget's Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review. If the SSA report is used to support a classification determination, the public will then have the opportunity to comment on that proposed rule or finding when it is published. The Service will not be providing public comments to the peer reviewers before they conduct their review. The public is invited to submit comments on this peer review plan by sending emails to the agency contact listed below. The Service will summarize in the final decision document, and make publicly available, copies of each individual independent peer review letter

Contact

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