

## **Peer Review Plan:**

Golden-cheeked warbler (*Setophaga chrysoparia*) SSA  
to inform a revised Recovery Plan and 5-year Status Review

### **About the Document**

**Title:** The Species Status Assessment (SSA), will inform a 5-year status review and a revised draft Recovery Plan for the Golden-cheeked warbler.

### **About the Peer Review Process**

**Estimated Peer Review Timeline:** October 2023 to December 2023

#### **Peer review process:**

- We, the Service, will choose approximately seven independent peer reviewers and invite comment letters from the peer reviewers.
- Peer reviewers will be requested to review the *Draft Species Status Assessment Report for the Golden-cheeked warbler*.

Peer reviewers will be selected based on the following criteria:

- **Expertise:** Reviewers will be experts in ecology of Golden-cheeked warbler 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**

Peer review will be initiated through the recently developed Editorial Manager SSA portal. Responses to the Service will be used to inform, update, and refine the SSA.

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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