

Peer Review Plan
for the
Draft Species Status Assessment for the Texas golden
gladecress (*Leavenworthia texana*)

About the Document

Title: Draft Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the Texas golden gladecress (*Leavenworthia texana*)

About the Peer Review Process

Type of Review: Influential

Estimated Peer Review Timeline: May 2022 – June 2022

Reviewers: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will solicit external peer review of the scientific background information used in the SSA analyses from at least three or more independent scientific reviewers with expertise in conservation biology with an emphasis on plant ecology.

Criteria for Reviewer Selection: Peer reviewers will be selected based on the following criteria:

- **Expertise:** Reviewers should have knowledge in one or more of the following areas: plant ecology, plant reproductive ecology, glade ecosystems, conservation biology, and land management activities and their effects on glade ecosystems.
- **Independence:** Reviewers should not be employed by the Service. Academic and consulting scientists should have sufficient independence from the Service and the Department of the Interior if the government supports their work.
- **Objectivity:** Reviewers should be recognized by their peers as being objective, open-minded, and thoughtful. Reviewers should be comfortable sharing their knowledge and identifying their knowledge gaps.
- **Advocacy:** Reviewers should not be known or recognized for an affiliation with an advocacy position regarding the protection of this species under the Endangered Species Act.
- **Conflict of Interest:** Reviewers should not have any financial or other interest that conflicts with or that could impair their objectivity.

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.

Contact: Jennifer Smith-Castro (281) 212-1509, or jennifer_smith-castro@fws.gov