



United States Department of the Interior

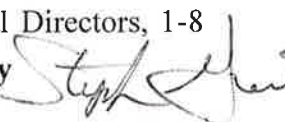
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240



In Reply Refer To:
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MAY 09 2016

Memorandum

To: Regional Directors, 1-8
From: Deputy Director 
Subject: Information Disclosure Policy

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is dedicated to making its implementation of the Endangered Species Act (Act) more transparent. To that end, we will make publicly available, to the extent allowable by law, the scientific data and analyses relied upon in our rulemakings.

The Service will post all cited literature that is used in rulemaking decisions under the Act, and that is not already publicly available, on Regulations.gov concurrent with the Federal Register publication. Rulemakings include proposed and final listings, critical habitat designations, delistings, reclassifications, section 4(d) and 4(e) rules under and section 10(j) rules. Where cited references or literature used in the rulemaking process are not published and readily available to the public, (such as with grey literature, information from States, or other unpublished resources), we will post those documents on Regulations.gov. Issues of intellectual property law, copyright, and open access will be considered, and every effort will be made to ensure maximum visibility of the information used to make rulemaking decisions. Open access may be restricted in accordance with government efforts to safeguard proprietary information.

Please distribute this Memorandum to all offices that prepare and review rulemakings under section 4 and 10 of the Act.

Thank you for your commitment to efficient and effective implementation of the Act. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Gary Frazer, the Service's Assistant Director - Ecological Services, at (202) 208-4646.