

Proposed Endangered Status for coquí llanero (*Eleutherodactylus juanariveroi*) and Designation of Critical Habitat

Peer Review Plan

About the Document

Title: Proposed Endangered Status for coquí llanero and Designation of Critical Habitat

Purpose: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is preparing a proposal to list the coquí llanero (*Eleutherodactylus juanariveroi*); an endemic Puerto Rican tree frog, under the Endangered Species Act and designate 615 acres (249 hectares) of public land in, Toa Baja, Puerto Rico as critical habitat for the species. A proposed regulation was published in the Federal Register on October 12, 2011, for review and comments.

About the Peer Review Process

Type of Review: Influential

Date of Peer Review: Peer review will occur between October 12, 2011 and December 12, 2011

Estimated Dissemination Date of the Final Rulemaking Document: October 12, 2012

Process: The Service will conduct external peer review of this document through formal requests for peer review from six independent scientific reviewers experienced with the biology and ecology of the species at the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, the University of Puerto Rico (Rio Piedras, Humacao and Mayagüez Campuses) and Non-profit organizations. Peer review of the scientific information used in our analysis of the status of the species and whether we used the best available science in making our proposed determination will be requested. However, peer reviewers will not be asked to provide recommendations on the proposed legal status of the species. The Service will use the information received from the peer review, as appropriate, in the final determination to list the coquí llanero as endangered and to designate its critical habitat.

About Public Participation

Public comments on the proposed listing and critical habitat designation will be sought with a proposed rule published in the Federal Register and by mail to interested parties, a press release of the availability of the proposal to interested parties, and a public hearing if requested. The Service will consider all comments received prior to publishing a final determination.

The Service published a notice in the *Federal Register* of the proposed listing and designation of critical habitat for coquí llanero. A summary of the results of the peer review will be published with the final rule determination also in the *Federal Register*.

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.

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