

Peer Review Plan

Revised New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse Species Status Assessment and Draft New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse Recovery Plan

About the Documents

Titles:

- Species Status Assessment Report for New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse (*Zapus hudsonius luteus*), 1st Revision
- Draft Recovery Plan for New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse (*Zapus hudsonius luteus*)



Estimated Dissemination Dates:

August 2018 (Species Status Assessment report)
February 2019 (draft Recovery Plan)

Purpose:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has revised the Species Status Assessment (SSA) for the New Mexico meadow jumping mouse (jumping mouse) to inform the recovery planning process for the subspecies. The revised SSA report is a comprehensive evaluation of the biological status of the jumping mouse and its viability as a subspecies. The SSA report considers the ecological needs of the jumping mouse as well as its current and forecasted future conditions. The purpose of the recovery plan is to provide a strategy that when implemented will lead to the downlisting and recovery (delisting) of the jumping mouse in accordance with section 4(f)(1) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). The draft Recovery Plan contains objective and measurable recovery criteria, a recovery strategy with recommended recovery actions, and the time and cost to achieve recovery.

About the Peer Review Process

Type of Review:

Influential

Timeline for Peer Review:

Peer review of the SSA report is expected to be completed by September 2018. Peer review of the draft Recovery Plan is expected to be completed by March 2019.

Reviewers:

The Service will solicit reviews from at least three independent scientific reviewers with expertise in jumping mouse ecology or a related field. Reviewers will be selected based upon the following criteria:

- Expertise: Reviewers will be experts in ecology of Zapus species or a related field and should have knowledge in one or more of the following areas: biology, ecology, demography, management, and conservation of native small riparian mammal species.
- Independence: Reviewers are not employed by the Service. Academic and consulting scientists have sufficient independence from the Service or the Department of the Interior if the government supports their work.
- Objectivity: Reviewers are 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 are not 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

A 60-day public comment period for the draft recovery plan will begin when the notice of availability publishes in the Federal Register. During this period, the public will have the opportunity to review and provide input to the draft recovery plan. The Service will also implement an outreach plan to provide ample opportunity for public involvement in the review process, and the draft recovery plan will be posted on Service websites with solicitations for public comment. The final SSA report will also be made publically available at this time.

Both the draft and final recovery plans will be available at:

<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp0/profile/speciesProfile?spcode=A0BX>

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

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