



Figure 1 Dunes Sagebrush Lizard

Proposed Rule to List the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard (*Sceloporus arenicolus*) as Endangered Throughout its Range

About the Document

Title: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Proposed Rule to list the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard (*Sceloporus arenicolus*) as Endangered under the Endangered Species Act

About the Peer Review Process

Draft document disseminated: December 2010- February 2011

Peer review initiated: December 2010

Peer review to be completed by: February 2011

Process:

- The Service will conduct a peer review of the listing proposal that includes a discussion of the scientific information reviewed and our analysis (but not our conclusion regarding the species listing classification).
- The Service will conduct external peer review of this document through letters to 3 or more independent scientific reviewers with expertise in lizard ecology or conservation biology.
- Peer reviewers will not be asked to provide recommendations on the classification of the species. Peer reviewers may be asked to: comment specifically on the quality of any information and analyses used or relied on in the review; identify oversights, omissions, and inconsistencies; provide advice on reasonableness of judgments made from the scientific evidence; ensure that scientific uncertainties are clearly identified and characterized, and that potential implications of uncertainties for the technical conclusions drawn are clear; and provide advice on the strengths and limitation of the overall product.

- The Service will use the information received from the peer review in the final rule.
- The estimated start date of the peer review will be December 2010.

About Public Participation

- Public comments on the listing proposal for this species will be sought concurrently with publication of the proposed rule in the Federal Register and through distribution by mail and press release of this announcement to interested parties.
- This peer review plan will be posted on the Service's website to allow the public to monitor our compliance with the Office of Management and Budget's Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review.
- The Service will post a notice on its website of the final rule, which will include a summary of the results of the peer review process.

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