

Proposed Endangered Status for the Three Forks springsnail and San Bernardino springsnail, and Proposed Designation of Critical Habitat

About the Document

Title: Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Proposed Endangered Status for the Three Forks Springsnail and San Bernardino Springsnail, and Proposed Designation of Critical Habitat

About the Peer Review Process

Peer review initiated: April 2011

Peer review to be completed by: July 2011

Process:

- The Service is conducting a peer review of the portion of the proposal that includes a discussion of the scientific information reviewed and our analysis (but not our conclusion regarding the status of the species or critical habitat boundaries).
- The Service will conduct external peer review of this document through letters to 3 independent scientific reviewers with expertise in invertebrate ecology, conservation biology, desert spring ecology, and springsnail biology.
- Peer reviewers may be asked to: comment specifically on the quality of any information and analyses used or relied on in analysis, 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 start date of the peer review is anticipated to be March 2011.

About Public Participation

- Public comments on the delisting 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 for public review and comment.
- 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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