

Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Washington Fish and Wildlife Office
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News Release



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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to Hold a Public Hearing for Proposed Protection of the Oregon Spotted Frog

Agency Seeks Information from the Public, Scientific Community, Before Making Final Decision

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will hold a public hearing on the proposed listing and proposed critical habitat of the Oregon spotted frog (*Rana pretiosa*) under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) on Monday, October 21, 2013. At the public hearing, oral and written comments will be taken. Oral comments will be recorded. All comments will be included in the record and be part of the final decision.

On August 29, 2013 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) proposed to list the Oregon spotted frog (*Rana pretiosa*) as threatened under the ESA and opened a 60-day comment period. The Service also proposed to designate critical habitat for the species. On September 25, 2013, the 60-day comment period was extended to allow all interested parties an opportunity to comment on the proposed rule and proposed designation of critical habitat until November 12, 2013. Comments previously submitted on these proposed actions do not need to be resubmitted, as they will be fully considered in preparation of the final rules.

The **October 21st hearing** will occur from **3 p.m. to 5 p.m.** and will continue from **6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Norman Worthington Conference Center at St. Martin's University, 5300 Pacific Avenue SE, Lacey, Washington 98503.**

Comments and information must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on November 12, 2013. They may be submitted electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov> or in writing at Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS-R1-ES-2013-0013 (listing) or FWS:R1-ES-2013-0088 (critical habitat); Division of Policy and Directives Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042-PDM; Arlington, VA 22203.

More information on submitting comments is available online at <http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/>.

For more information about the Oregon spotted frog and the Federal Register notice, visit <http://www.fws.gov/wafwo/osf.html>.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov. Connect with our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/usfws, follow our tweets at www.twitter.com/usfwshq, our YouTube Channel at <http://www.youtube.com/usfws> and download photos from our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfwshq>

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