

News Bulletin

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Invites Additional Public Comment on Draft Economic Analysis for Oregon Spotted Frog Proposed Critical Habitat

Today the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announced the reopening of the public comment period that closed on June 18, 2014, on the draft economic analysis for the proposed designation of critical habitat for the Oregon spotted frog. The Service invites public comment on the draft economic analysis, including the associated perceptual effects memorandum, for a 14-day period and will accept comments received or postmarked on or before September 23, 2014.

The reopening is the Service's response to a public comment expressing concern that the public did not have adequate time to review and provide comments on the draft economic analysis.

Previously submitted comments on the proposed critical habitat rule do not need to be resubmitted, as they will be fully considered in preparation of the final critical habitat rule.

Copies of the draft economic analysis and associated documents may be obtained at <https://www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection> in Docket No. FWS-R1-ES-2013-0088.

More information is available from the Washington Fish and Wildlife Office's website at www.fws.gov/wafwo/osf.html.

The Oregon spotted frog has disappeared from as much as 90 percent of its range, which extends from southwestern British Columbia through the Puget/Willamette Valley and in the Cascades Range from south-central Washington to the Klamath Basin in Oregon. Oregon spotted frog may be extinct in California and the Willamette Valley of Oregon. Oregon spotted frog

populations have been impacted heavily by loss and degradation of wetland habitat, introduced nonnative species, and changes to hydrology.

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