

general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

On October 12, 2018, we published a **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day public comment period soliciting comments on this proposed new collection of information (83 FR 51695). In that notice, we solicited comments for 60 days, ending on December 11, 2018. We received one comment in response to that notice but it did not address the information collection requirements. We made no changes to the collection in response to that comment.

We are again soliciting comments on the information collection request (ICR) that is described below. We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is the collection necessary to the proper functions of the Service; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Service enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Service minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Abstract:** The administration and uses of national wildlife refuges and wetland management districts are governed by the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd–668ee) (Administration Act), as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997; the Refuge Recreation Act of 1962 (16 U.S.C. 460k–460k–4) (Recreation Act); and, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3101 *et seq.*) (ANILCA). ANILCA provides specific authorization and guidance for

the administration and management of national wildlife refuges within the State of Alaska.

The Service is requesting authorization to contribute to the design and implementation of subsistence fisher surveys for the purposes of informing in-season fisheries management decision-making in the Kuskokwim River subsistence salmon fishery at Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge (YDNWR). A program is already in place and is operated by tribal partners [the Orutsarmiut Traditional Native Council and the Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission (KRITFC)], but the Service would like to be more involved in planning and administering the surveys.

The information collected by the survey includes the times individuals left and returned from boat launches, several characteristics of their fishing gear, broad classification of where the fishing activity occurred, for how long they actively fished, and how many of each of three salmon species they harvested. When coupled with aerial boat counts performed by the Service, these data can be used to obtain quantitative estimates of total fishing activity and salmon harvest occurring from short-duration subsistence harvest opportunities. The estimates are then used to inform the management strategy used jointly by the Service and the KRITFC.

**Title of Collection:** In-Season Subsistence Salmon Fishery Catch and Effort Survey.

**OMB Control Number:** 1018–New.

**Form Number:** None.

**Type of Review:** New.

**Respondents/Affected Public:** Subsistence fishers within the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents:** 1,014.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:** 1,014.

**Estimated Completion Time per Response:** 5 minutes.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:** 85 hours.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Voluntary.

**Frequency of Collection:** On occasion.

**Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost:** None.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Dated: July 31, 2019.

**Madonna Baucum,**

*Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 2019–16723 Filed 8–5–19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4333–15–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS–HQ–ES–2019–N047;  
FXES1113010000C4–190–FF02ENEH00]

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 21 Draft Recovery Plan Revisions for 25 Species in 15 States Across the United States

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; opening of public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability for public review and comment of 21 draft recovery plan revisions, which update recovery criteria for 25 endangered or threatened species located in 15 States (Arizona, California, Colorado, Kentucky, Maine, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia). We are updating recovery criteria to better assist in determining when an endangered species has recovered to the point that it may be reclassified as threatened, or that the protections afforded by the Endangered Species Act (ESA) are no longer necessary and the species may be removed from the ESA's protections. We request review of these draft recovery plan revisions and invite comments from local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and the public.

**DATES:** We must receive comments on the draft recovery plan revisions on or before September 5, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:**

*Reviewing documents:* If you wish to review the draft recovery plan revisions, you may obtain copies from the website addresses in the table in **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. You may also request copies of the draft recovery plan revisions by contacting the individuals listed in the table.

*Submitting comments:* If you wish to comment, see the table in **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** and submit your comments by one of the following methods:

1. *U.S. Mail or hand-delivery:* You may submit written comments and materials to the appropriate field office

mailing address for the species in which you are interested;

2. *Email*: You may send comments by email to the identified contact person's email address in the table, for each species. Please include "Draft Recovery Plan Revision Comments" in the subject line.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on a particular species, contact the appropriate person listed in the table for that species in

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

Individuals who are hearing impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339 for TTY assistance.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

In this notice, we announce for public review and comment the availability of 21 draft recovery plan revisions, which update recovery criteria for 25 endangered or threatened species located in 15 States (Arizona, California, Colorado, Kentucky, Maine, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia). This group of 21 draft recovery plan revisions is part of a larger effort underway to revise up to 182 recovery plans covering up to 305 species in order to achieve the following Department of the Interior Agency Priority Performance Goal outlined in the Department's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2018–2022: "By September 30, 2019, 100 percent of all Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plans will have quantitative criteria for what constitutes a recovered species."

The purpose of a recovery plan is to provide a feasible and effective roadmap for a species' recovery, with the goal of improving its status and managing its

threats to the point at which protections under the Endangered Species Act (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) are no longer needed. Recovery plans must be designed so that all stakeholders and the public understand the rationale behind the recovery program, whether they were involved in writing the plan or not, and recognize their role in its implementation. We are requesting submission of any information that enhances the necessary understanding of the (1) species' biology and threats and (2) recovery needs and related implementation issues or concerns, to ensure that we have assembled, considered, and incorporated the best available scientific and commercial information into the draft recovery plan revisions for these 25 species.

Recovery plans provide important guidance to the Service, States, other partners, and the general public on methods of minimizing threats to listed species and objectives against which to measure the progress towards recovery; they are guidance and not regulatory documents. A recovery plan identifies, organizes, and prioritizes recovery actions and is an important guide that ensures sound scientific decision-making throughout the recovery process, which can take decades. Keeping recovery plans current ensures that threatened species and endangered species benefit through timely partner-coordinated implementation, based on the best available information.

A review of a recovery plan and its implementation may show that the plan is out of date or its usefulness is limited and that the plan warrants modification. The need for, and extent of, recovery plan modifications will vary considerably among recovery plans, depending on the scope and complexity

of the initial plan, the structure of the document, and the involvement of stakeholders. Recovery plan modifications can range from relatively minor updates to a substantial rewrite that revises the existing plan in part (*i.e.*, an amendment to one of the sections that modifies the existing plan), or in full (*i.e.*, a full revision that completely replaces the existing plan). The need for a recovery plan revision may be triggered when, among other possibilities, (1) new information has been identified, such as population-level threats to the species or previously unknown life-history traits, which necessitates new or revised recovery strategy, actions, or criteria, or revision of all three in order to maintain the adequacy of the plan; and (2) the current plan is not achieving its objectives. Revisions benefit endangered and threatened species, our partners, and the public by incorporating the best available information on what is needed for species' recovery.

Revision of recovery plans requires public notice and comment under section 4(f)(4) of the ESA, including (1) a **Federal Register** notice of availability to give opportunity for public review and comment, (2) consideration of all information presented during the public comment period, and (3) approval by the Regional Director. When finalized, these recovery plan revisions will be made publicly available on the internet through our Environmental Conservation Online System (ECOS, <https://ecos.fws.gov>).

**What plans are being made available for public review and comment?**

This notice announces our draft recovery plan revisions for the species listed in the table below.

Common Name	Scientific name	Listing status <sup>1</sup>	Current range	Recovery plan name	Internet availability of proposed recovery plan revision	Contact person, phone, email	Contact person's U.S. mail address
<b>Southwest Region (Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas)</b>							
Sonoran tiger salamander	<i>Ambystoma tigrinum stebbinsi</i> .	E	AZ .....	Sonoran Tiger Salamander ( <i>Ambystoma tigrinum stebbinsi</i> ) Recovery Plan <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_Sonoran%20tiger%20salamander_03152019.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_Sonoran%20tiger%20salamander_03152019.pdf</a> .	Field Supervisor, 602-242-0210, <a href="mailto:incomingazcorr@fws.gov">incomingazcorr@fws.gov</a> .	Arizona Ecological Services Field Office, 9828 North 31st Avenue, #C3, Phoenix, AZ 85051.
Navajo sedge .....	<i>Carex specuicola</i> ..	T	AZ, UT ..	Recovery Plan for Navajo Sedge <i>Carex specuicola</i> <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_Navajo%20sedge_03152019.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_Navajo%20sedge_03152019.pdf</a> .		
Nichol's Turk's head cactus.	<i>Echinocactus horzonthalonius</i> var. <i>nicholii</i> .	E	AZ .....	Recovery Plan for the Nichol's Turk's Head Cactus ( <i>Echinocactus horzonthalonius</i> var. <i>nicholii</i> ) <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_Nichols%20turks%20head_03152019.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_Nichols%20turks%20head_03152019.pdf</a> .		
Little Colorado spinedace	<i>Lepidomeda vittata</i>	T	AZ .....	Little Colorado River Spinedace <i>Lepidomeda vittata</i> Recovery Plan <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_Little%20Colorado%20spinedace_03202019.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_Little%20Colorado%20spinedace_03202019.pdf</a> .		
Spikedace .....	<i>Meda fulgida</i> .....	E	AZ, NM ..	Spikedace, <i>Meda fulgida</i> Recovery Plan <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_spikedace_03152019.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_spikedace_03152019.pdf</a> .		

Common Name	Scientific name	Listing status <sup>1</sup>	Current range	Recovery plan name	Internet availability of proposed recovery plan revision	Contact person, phone, email	Contact person's U.S. mail address
Loach minnow .....	<i>Rhinichthys cobitis</i>	E	AZ, NM ..	Loach Minnow, <i>Tiaroga cobitis</i> Recovery Plan <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_loach%20minnow_03152019.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_loach%20minnow_03152019.pdf</a> .		
Masked bobwhite .....	<i>Colinus virginianus ridgwayi</i> .	E	AZ .....	Masked Bobwhite Recovery Plan, Second Revision <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_masked%20bobwhite_03152019.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_masked%20bobwhite_03152019.pdf</a> .	William Radke, 520-364-2104, <a href="mailto:bill_radke@fws.gov">bill_radke@fws.gov</a> .	Buenos Aires, Leslie Canyon, & San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuges, P.O. Box 3509, Douglas, AZ 85607.
Texas poppy-mallow .....	<i>Callirhoe scabriuscula</i> .	E	TX .....	Texas Poppy-Mallow <i>Callirhoe scabriuscula</i> Recovery Plan <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_Texas%20poppy%20mallow_03152019.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_Texas%20poppy%20mallow_03152019.pdf</a> .	Adam Zerrenner, 512-490-0057, <a href="mailto:adam_zerrenner@fws.gov">adam_zerrenner@fws.gov</a> .	Austin Ecological Services Field Office, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200 Austin, TX 78758.
Fountain darter .....	<i>Etheostoma fonticola</i> .	E	TX .....	San Marcos and Comal Springs and Associated Aquatic Ecosystems (Revised) Recovery Plan <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_San%20Marcos%20and%20Comal%20Springs_1.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_San%20Marcos%20and%20Comal%20Springs_1.pdf</a> .		
Texas blind salamander ..	<i>Typhlomolge rathbuni</i> .	E	TX.				
Texas wild-rice .....	<i>Zizania texana</i> .....	E	TX.				
Black lace cactus .....	<i>Echinocereus reichenbachii</i> var. <i>alberti</i> .	E	TX .....	Black Lace Cactus ( <i>Echinocereus reichenbachii</i> var. <i>alberti</i> ) Recovery Plan <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_black%20lace%20cactus.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_black%20lace%20cactus.pdf</a> .	Chuck Ardizzone, 281-826-8282, <a href="mailto:chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov">chuck_ardizzone@fws.gov</a> .	Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office, 17629 El Cammino Real, Suite 211, Houston, TX 77058.
Walker's manioc .....	<i>Manihot walkerae</i>	E	TX .....	Walker's Manioc <i>Manihot walkerae</i> Recovery Plan <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_Walkers%20manioc_03152019.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20APG%20RP%20Amendment_Walkers%20manioc_03152019.pdf</a> .		

**Northeast Region (Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia)**

Jesup's milk-vetch .....	<i>Astragalus robbinsii</i> var. <i>jesupi</i> .	E	NH, VT ..	Jesup's Milk-Vetch Recovery Plan ( <i>Astragalus robbinsii</i> var. <i>jesupi</i> ) Draft Revised Recovery Plan <sup>3</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/20190228_Draft%20JMV%20Recovery%20Plan_1.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/20190228_Draft%20JMV%20Recovery%20Plan_1.pdf</a> .	David Simmons, 603-227-6425, <a href="mailto:david_simmons@fws.gov">david_simmons@fws.gov</a> .	New England Field Office, 70 Commercial St., Suite 300, Concord, NH 03301.
Virginia big-eared bat .....	<i>Corynorhinus townsendii virginianus</i> .	E	KY, NC, TN, VA, WV.	A Recovery Plan for the Ozark Big-Eared Bat and the Virginia Big-Eared Bat <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/20190313_Draft%20VBEB%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/20190313_Draft%20VBEB%20Recovery%20Plan%20Amendment.pdf</a> .	Daphne Carlson Bremer, 304-636-6586, <a href="mailto:daphne_carlsonbremer@fws.gov">daphne_carlsonbremer@fws.gov</a> .	West Virginia Field Office, 90 Vance Drive, Elkins, WV 26241.
Furbish lousewort .....	<i>Pedicularis furbishiae</i> .	E	ME .....	Recovery Plan for the Furbish's Lousewort ( <i>Pedicularis furbishiae</i> ), Draft Second Revision <sup>3</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/20190306_Furbish%20lousewort%20RP_draft%20final.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/20190306_Furbish%20lousewort%20RP_draft%20final.pdf</a> .	Anna Harris, 207-469-7300, <a href="mailto:anna_harris@fws.gov">anna_harris@fws.gov</a> .	Maine Field Office, 306 Hatchery Road East, Orland, ME 04431.

**Mountain-Prairie Region (Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming)**

Pawnee montane skipper	<i>Hesperia leonardus montana</i> .	T	CO .....	Pawnee Montane Skipper Recovery Plan <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Pawnee%20montane%20skipper_Draft%20Amendment%201.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Pawnee%20montane%20skipper_Draft%20Amendment%201.pdf</a> .	Leslie Ellwood, 303-236-4747, <a href="mailto:leslie_ellwood@fws.gov">leslie_ellwood@fws.gov</a> .	Colorado Ecological Services Field Office, 134 Union Blvd., Suite 670, Lakewood, CO 80228.
Dudley Bluffs bladderpod	<i>Lesquerella congesta</i> .	T	CO .....	Dudley Bluffs Bladderpod ( <i>Lesquerella congesta</i> ) and Dudley Bluffs Twinpod ( <i>Physaria obcordata</i> ) Recovery Plan <sup>3</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/20190318_DudleyBluffs_DraftRecoveryPlan.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/20190318_DudleyBluffs_DraftRecoveryPlan.pdf</a> .	Ann Timberman, 970-628-7181, <a href="mailto:ann_timberman@fws.gov">ann_timberman@fws.gov</a> .	Colorado Ecological Services Field Office, Western Colorado Sub-Office, 445 W. Gunnison Ave., Suite 240, Grand Junction, CO 81504.
Dudley Bluffs twinpod .....	<i>Physaria obcordata</i> .	T	CO.				

**Pacific Southwest Region (California, Nevada, and the Klamath Basin area of Oregon)**

Applegate's milk-vetch ....	<i>Astragalus applegatei</i> .	E	CA, OR	Applegate's milk-vetch ( <i>Astragalus applegatei</i> ) Recovery Plan <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20RP%20Amendment%20Applegates%20MV_1.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20RP%20Amendment%20Applegates%20MV_1.pdf</a> .	Jeanne Spaur, <a href="mailto:kfalls@fws.gov">kfalls@fws.gov</a> , 541-885-8481.	Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Office, 1936 California Ave., Klamath Falls, OR 97601.
El Segundo blue butterfly	<i>Euphilotes battoides allyni</i> .	E	CA .....	El Segundo Blue Butterfly ( <i>Euphilotes battoides allyni</i> ) Recovery Plan <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20RP%20Amendment%20ESB_1.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20RP%20Amendment%20ESB_1.pdf</a> .	Bradd Bridges, <a href="mailto:fw8cwfcomments@fws.gov">fw8cwfcomments@fws.gov</a> , 760-431-9440.	Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, 2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250, Carlsbad, CA 92008.
Quino checkerspot butterfly.	<i>Euphydryas editha quino</i> .	E	CA .....	Recovery Plan for the Quino Checkerspot Butterfly ( <i>Euphydryas editha quino</i> ) <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20RP%20Amendment%20for%20QCB_1.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20RP%20Amendment%20for%20QCB_1.pdf</a> .		
Palos Verdes blue butterfly.	<i>Glaucopteryx lygdamus palosverdesensis</i> .	E	CA .....	Palos Verdes Blue Butterfly Recovery Plan <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20RP%20Amendment%20PVB.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20RP%20Amendment%20PVB.pdf</a> .		

Common Name	Scientific name	Listing status <sup>1</sup>	Current range	Recovery plan name	Internet availability of proposed recovery plan revision	Contact person, phone, email	Contact person's U.S. mail address
San Clemente logger-head shrike.	<i>Lanius ludovicianus mearnsi</i> .	E	CA .....	Recovery Plan for the Endangered and Threatened Species of the California Channel Islands <sup>2</sup> .	<a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20RP%20Amendment%20for%202%20SCI_shrike%20LIMA_1.pdf">https://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/Draft%20RP%20Amendment%20for%202%20SCI_shrike%20LIMA_1.pdf</a> .		
San Clemente Island woodland-star.	<i>Lithophragma maximum</i> .	E	CA.				

<sup>1</sup> E = endangered; T = threatened.

<sup>2</sup> Denotes a partial revision (i.e., amendment) to the recovery plan.

<sup>3</sup> Denotes a full revision of the recovery plan.

### How do I ask questions or provide information?

For any species listed above, please submit your questions, comments, and materials to the appropriate contact in the table above. Individuals who are hearing impaired or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339 for TTY assistance.

### Request for Public Comments

We request written comments on the draft recovery plan modifications. We will consider all comments we receive by the date specified in **DATES** prior to final approval of the plans.

### Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

### Authority

The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1533 (f)).

Dated: July 25, 2019.

### Margaret E. Everson,

*Principal Deputy Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Exercising the Authority of the Director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 2019-16748 Filed 8-5-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-HQ-ES-2019-N048;  
FXES1113010000C4-190-FF02ENEH00]

### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 21 Draft Recovery Plan Revisions for 43 Southeastern Species

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; opening of public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability for public review and comment of 21 draft recovery plan revisions, which update recovery criteria for 43 endangered or threatened species located in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, and Tennessee, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the U.S. and British Virgin Islands. We are updating recovery criteria to better assist in determining when an endangered species has recovered to the point that it may be reclassified as threatened, or that the protections afforded by the Endangered Species Act (ESA) are no longer necessary and the species may be removed from the ESA's protections. We request review of these draft recovery plan revisions and invite comments from local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and the public.

**DATES:** We must receive comments on the draft recovery plan revisions on or before September 5, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** *Reviewing documents:* If you wish to review the draft recovery plan revisions, you may obtain copies from the website addresses in the table in **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. You may also request copies of the draft recovery plan revisions by contacting the individuals listed in the table.

*Submitting comments:* If you wish to comment, see the table in **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** and submit your comments by one of the following methods:

1. *U.S. Mail or hand-delivery:* You may submit written comments and materials to the appropriate field office mailing address for the species in which you are interested;

2. *Email:* You may send comments by email to the identified contact person's email address in the table, for each species. Please include "Draft Recovery Plan Revision Comments" in the subject line.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on a particular species,

contact the appropriate person listed in the table for that species in

### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

Individuals who are hearing impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339 for TTY assistance.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **Background**

In this notice, we announce for public review and comment the availability of 21 draft recovery plan revisions, which update recovery criteria for 43 endangered or threatened species located in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Mississippi, and Tennessee, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the U.S. and British Virgin Islands. This group of 21 draft recovery plan revisions is part of a larger effort underway to revise up to 182 recovery plans covering up to 305 species in order to achieve the following Department of the Interior Agency Priority Performance Goal outlined in the Department's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2018-2022: "By September 30, 2019, 100 percent of all Fish and Wildlife Service recovery plans will have quantitative criteria for what constitutes a recovered species."

The purpose of a recovery plan is to provide a feasible and effective roadmap for a species' recovery, with the goal of improving its status and managing its threats to the point at which protections under the Endangered Species Act (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) are no longer needed. Recovery plans must be designed so that all stakeholders and the public understand the rationale behind the recovery program, whether they were involved in writing the plan or not, and recognize their role in its implementation. We are requesting submission of any information that enhances the necessary understanding of the (1) species' biology and threats and (2) recovery needs and related implementation issues or concerns, to ensure that we have assembled, considered, and incorporated the best available scientific and commercial information into the draft recovery plan revisions for these 43 species.