THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES POLICY COMMITTEE
Chair: Greg Sheehan (UT)
Vice-Chair: Eric Gardner (WA)

Friday, March 10, 2017
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

82nd North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Committee
Meeting Room 1 / Davenport Grand Hotel
Spokane, WA

Agenda

8:00 am Call to Order/Review Agenda – Greg Sheehan

8:05 Introductions – All

8:10 Review and Approval of 2017 work plan – All

8:15 Report on the Western Governors Association ESA Initiative - Zach Bodhane, WGA

8:35 Update from Legal Committee on ESA critical habitat rule challenge – Lisa Reynolds, CPW

8:50 Species Updates:
   • Wolves – Gray, Mexican, Red
   • Grizzly Bears
   • Monarchs

9:10 Update on EAJA Reform in the 115th Congress – Lowell Baier, Esq.

9:20 Legislative Update and Discussion – Jen Mock Schaeffer, AFWA
   • AFWA’s administrative transition priorities (attachments to email)
   • Recovering America’s Wildlife Act reintroduction
   • Senate EPW Hearing on Modernization of the ESA and AFWA’s efforts
   • Other ESA related legislation
   • Discussion of appropriations priorities and other considerations

9:45 Review and Discussion of USFWS’s Final ESA Compensatory Mitigation Policy finalized December 27, 2016 – Gary Frazer
10:05 Health break

10:15 Review and Discussion of USFWS’s & NMFS’s changes to the HCP handbook and CCAA policy and changes to regulations finalized December 27, 2016 – Gary Frazer & Angela Somma

10:35 Federal Partner Updates and Q&A
  - USFWS (other issues)
  - NMFS
  - BLM - T&E Recovery Fund Presentation – Kim Tripp
  - NRCS
  - NPS
  - USFS
  - USGS
  - Other?

11:45 Update: Work of the ESA State/Federal Joint Task Force - Nick Wiley, FL

11:55 Next Steps and wrap-up discussion

12:00 pm Adjourn

If time permits:

Species of Interest Updates:
  - Canada lynx species status assessment
  - Black-footed ferret reintroduction and recovery
  - Monarch butterfly conservation
  - Wolverine conservation

Committee Charge:
  - Review procedural or categorical problems affecting threatened and endangered species listings and de-listing and critical habitat proposals as reported in the Federal Register and suggest appropriate action.
  - Keep abreast of legislative proposals and oversight hearings and recommend Association involvement.
• Maintain active liaison with appropriate federal agency offices, the conservation community, states and regional associations.
• Serve as the subject matter and support group on endangered species that are covered by CITES or other international arrangements.
• Subcommittees and Working Groups: ESA and Climate Change Working Group