



ASSOCIATION *of*
FISH & WILDLIFE
AGENCIES

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES POLICY COMMITTEE

Chair: Brian Nesvik (WY)

Vice-Chair: Eric Gardner (WA)

Friday, March 13, 2020

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**85th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference
Room TBD/ Hilton Omaha / Omaha, NE**

DRAFT AGENDA

8:00am Call to order, introductions, and review agenda – Brian Nesvik, WY

Topics to discuss:

- Celebrate ESA Success Stories – Review of ESA delistings since January 2019
 - What were the strategies behind the successes?
- Legal update on litigation and court rulings
- Proposed changes to NEPA and discussion about potential impacts to T/E species
- FWS update: Using Species Distribution Maps to improve current range maps for select listed species under the ESA
- States' Roundtable discussion: Recent ESA successes, challenges, and troubleshooting
- Review and discussion: Changes to implementing the ESA and new final rules –FWS and NOAA
- Update on the status of Monarch conservation across the states
 - Actions in the mid-America region – Ed Boggess and Claire Beck, MAFWA
 - Actions in the western region – TBD
 - Update on status report required by House Appropriations Report: “MONARCH BUTTERFLY POPULATIONS – The Committee is aware the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is gathering information to determine whether the monarch butterfly should be listed as a threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. Monarch butterflies are a fixture in crop fields across the Nation and listing them could have significant impacts on agriculture. The Committee directs the Secretary of the Interior to work with the Secretary of Agriculture in coordination with the states, and private and nonprofit organizations to develop and implement strategies, such as setting up milkweed reserves, to help protect monarch butterfly populations and preserve the natural habitats critical to their survival. The Secretaries are directed to report back within 120 days of enactment of this Act on the status of this plan and any other actions the Departments are taking to encourage support of monarch conservation.”

- Federal Partner updates: FWS, NMFS (Angela Somma), WS, BLM, USFS, USGS, NPS, NRCS, others
 - Ongoing and new priorities for federal agencies and what it means for existing/other T/E efforts?
- Legislative Updates & discussion: Recovering America's Wildlife Act (HR3742), Migratory Bird Protection Act (HR5552), Congressional appropriations,

- Adjourn

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 (not active)*
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