



ASSOCIATION of  
FISH & WILDLIFE  
AGENCIES

**THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Scott Talbott (WY)**

**Vice-Chair: Eric Gardner (WA)**

**Wednesday, September 12, 2018**

**8:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**108<sup>th</sup> AFWA Annual Meeting**

**Room TBD/ Tampa Marriot Waterside / Tampa, FL**

**Draft Agenda**

- 8:00 am Call to order, introductions, and review agenda – Scott Talbott, Eric Gardner, all
- 8:05 am Review and adoption of minutes – All
- 8:10 Sunday's Symposium on "Assessing Decision Risk in Species Range Maps and Distribution Models for Use in Conservation and Management Use:
- Processing outcomes and important information for states – Jonathan Mawdsley
  - Thoughts and perspectives of symposium participants – All
  - FWS's investment in and use of species distribution modeling, including to develop and refine range maps for listed species: how is this information being used, how are decision being made, what exactly are SDM being used for, and what steps are FWS taking to provide transparency to states and partners?
- 8:30 Review of the FWS's work plan for petitioned, candidate, downlisting and delisting species and coordination with states and other partners on those workplans – Gary Frazer
- Discussion: How are states managing to stay engaged on the long list of petitioned and candidate species as well as status reviews and recovery plan updates for listed species? All
- 8:50 What is the status of Monarch conservation and actions that will inform the FWS's listing decision? Update on Midwest conservation efforts – Ed Boggess; update on Western conservation efforts – TBD
- 9.05 Review and Discussion of 3 Proposed Rules to Change Implementation of Sections 4 & 7 of the ESA:
- [Interagency Cooperation](#)
  - [Regulations for Prohibitions to Threatened Wildlife and Plants](#)
  - [Listing Species and Designating Critical Habitat](#)
    - Overview proposed rules – Gary Frazer and Angela Somma
    - Q & A, discussion – All

- 10.05 Health Break
- 10.15 Legislative Updates & Discussions
- Senator Barrasso's draft ESA amendments--background, what they do and why it's important; Western Congressional Caucus ESA amendments--what they change and comparison to Barrasso's draft bill – David Willms
  - Recovering America's Wildlife Act – Jen Mock Schaeffer
- 11:00 Update: National Alliance of Forest Owners' At-Risk Species Initiative with the USFWS --Jimmy Bullock
- 11:10 States' Roundtable: ESA successes/challenges in your state and collaborative troubleshooting -- All
- How is the [Policy on Evaluation of Conservation Efforts \(PECE\)](#) working across the country?
- 11.40 Federal Partner updates: FWS (Gary Frazer), NMFS (Angela Somma), BLM (Kim Trip), NPS, USFS, NRCS, others?
- 12pm Wrap-up and adjourn, Scott Talbott

If time permits:

- Latest ESA Related Litigation and Court Decisions - Exact subjects and speakers are TBD
- Where is AFWA on the DOI Solicitor's M-Opinion on Incidental Take under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act? – TBD

Committee Charge:

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- *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*
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