



FWS Mitigation Updates

2 national efforts are underway:

USFWS Mitigation Policy

ESA Compensatory Mitigation Policy

Each has it's own working group and there is an overarching advisory group coordinating both.

Both documents will go to the Federal Register (FR) for public comment.

Anticipate FR notice by the end of 2014.

USFWS Mitigation Updates



USFWS Mitigation Policy

- Revises and updates the 1981 USFWS Mitigation Policy
- The ESA was specifically excluded from the 1981 policy; this revision includes ESA mitigation
- Intended to be an overarching policy that ensures consistency and transparency while basing mitigation decisions in science
- Applies to **all** FWS authorities and resources identified in statute or regs providing authority to engage
- Revised policy provides logical framework for the Service to consistently make choices leading to the best conversation outcomes

USFWS Mitigation Updates



USFWS Mitigation Policy (continued)

- Reaffirms CEQ mitigation hierarchy (*i.e.*, Recommends sequence of: avoid, minimize, rectify, and reduce or eliminate impacts **before** compensating for impacts)
- Provides for flexibility when circumstances warrant departures from the preferred sequence in order to achieve better conservation outcomes
- Takes a Landscape Scale approach and focuses on durable benefits to impacted resources to achieve best, long-term conservation outcomes
- Goal is no net loss; aiming for sustainable net gain
- Will be an umbrella policy under which more detailed, future mitigation policies may be nested (*e.g.*, Eagles, Fish, and Wildlife Conservation, etc.)

USFWS Mitigation Updates



ESA Compensatory Mitigation Policy

- Expands and revises the existing 2003 Conservation Banking Guidelines, and replaces the 2008 Recovery Crediting System Guidelines
- Applies more broadly to compensation under ESA
- Acknowledges all types of compensatory mitigation under ESA (*e.g.*, PROMA, ILF, banks, etc.), whereas the original Conservation Banking Guidelines only addressed banks
- Takes principles from main USFWS mitigation policy and steps them down into compensatory mitigation standards which field staff can then implement on the ground
- Sets equivalent standards intended to achieve sustainable compensatory mitigation using advanced planning and a landscape scale approach



Florida Candidate/Listing Updates

Multi-year Listing work plan which allows the Service to review and address the needs of **251** candidate species nationally, and determine if they should be listed as endangered or threatened.

29 Occur in Florida

The national work plan for listing:

http://www.fws.gov/endangered/improving_esa/listing_workplan_FY13-2014.html



Recent Listing Actions

2 newly listed species in FL since April 2012)

Package name	Common name	Scientific name	Spp Listing status	Spp Listing Date	CH Listing status	CH Date
Miami blue butterfly	Miami blue butterfly	<i>Cyclargus thomasi bethunebakeri</i>	Endangered	4/6/12	Determined Not prudent	
8 Gulf Coast Mussels	Choctaw bean	<i>Villosa choctawensis</i>	Endangered	11/9/12	CH designated	11/9/12
	Round ebonyshell	<i>Fusconia rotulata</i>	Endangered	11/9/12	CH designated	11/9/12
	Southern kidneyshell	<i>Ptychobranhus jonesi</i>	Endangered	11/9/12	CH designated	11/9/12
	Fuzzy pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema strodeanum</i>	Threatened	11/9/12	CH designated	11/9/12
	Narrow pigtoe	<i>Fusconia escambia</i>	Threatened	11/9/12	CH designated	11/9/12
	Tapered pigtoe	<i>Fusconia</i> (= <i>Quincuncina</i>) <i>burkei</i>	Threatened	11/9/12	CH designated	11/9/12
	Southern sandshell	<i>Hamiota</i> (= <i>Lampsilis</i>) <i>australis</i>	Threatened	11/9/12	CH designated	11/9/12
3 South FL plants	Cape Sable thoroughwort	<i>Chromolaena frustrata</i>	Endangered	10/24/13	CH designated	1/8/14
	Florida semaphore cactus	<i>Consolea corallicola</i>	Endangered	10/24/13	Currently preparing proposed CH rule	
	Aboriginal prickly-apple	<i>Harrisia aboriginum</i>	Endangered	10/24/13	Currently preparing proposed CH rule	
FL bonneted bat	Florida bonneted bat	<i>Eumops floridanus</i>	Endangered	10/2/13	Currently preparing proposed CH rule	
Loggerhead CU	Loggerhead sea	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Threatened* (End in parts)	7/28/78 (revised)	CU designated	7/9/14

Photo by: Paula Cannon



Miami blue butterfly



Alabama pearlyshell, FWS photo

Photo by Kathleen Smith



FL Bonneted Bat

Sable thoroughwort



Florida semaphore cactus



Aboriginal prickly-apple





Upcoming Listing Actions: Current Proposals

Package name	Common name	Scientific name	Spp Listing status	Spp Listing Date	CH Listing status	CH Date
FL butterflies	Bartram's scrub-hairstreak	<i>Strymon acis bartrami</i>	Proposed E	8/15/13	Proposed CH designation	8/15/13
	Florida leafwing	<i>Anaea troglodyta floridalis</i>	Proposed E	8/15/13	Proposed CH designation	8/15/13
Red knot (R5 lead)	Red knot	<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	Proposed T	9/27/13	Evaluating for CH currently	
Northern Small-footed bat/northern long-eared bat (R3 lead)	Northern long-eared bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Proposed E	10/2/13	Determined not determinable at this time	
Florida rockland plants	Florida brickell-bush	<i>Brickellia mosieri</i>	Proposed E	10/3/13	Proposed CH designation	10/3/13
	Carter's small-flowered flax	<i>Linum carteri</i> var. <i>carteri</i>	Proposed E	10/3/13	Proposed CH designation	10/3/13



Upcoming Listing Actions: Candidates for evaluation

Package name	Common name	Scientific name	Spp Listing status	Spp Listing Date	CH Listing status	CH Date
Florida bristle fern	Florida bristle fern	<i>Trichomanes punctatum floridanum</i>	Candidate	Evaluating for listing & CH currently		
Tiger beetle	Highlands tiger beetle	<i>Cicindela highlandensis</i>	Candidate	Evaluate for listing & CH in FY2015		
4 FL keys plants	Sand flax	<i>Linum arenicola</i>	Candidate	Evaluate for listing and CH in FY2015		
	Big Pine partridge pea	<i>Chamaecrista lineata var. keyensis</i>	Candidate			
	Blodgett's silverbush	<i>Argythamnia blodgettii</i>	Candidate			
	Wedge spurge	<i>Chamaesyce deltoidea serpyllum</i>	Candidate			
7 AL/GA plants	Georgia aster	<i>Symphyotrichum georgianum</i>	Candidate	Evaluate for listing and CH - target FY2015		
4 Everglades plants	Everglades bully	<i>Sideroxylon reclinatum austrofloridense</i>	Candidate	Evaluate for listing and CH - target FY2016		
	Florida pineland crabgrass	<i>Digitaria pauciflora</i>	Candidate			
	Florida prairie-clover	<i>Dalea carthagenensis var. floridana</i>	Candidate			
	Pineland sandmat	<i>Chamaesyce deltoidea</i>	Candidate			

leafwing



Photo by Holly L. Salvato

Bartram's scrub-hairstreak



Photo by Holly L. Salvato

Highlands tiger beetle



Photo by C. B. Knisley

bristle fern



Brickellia mosieri
Photo by Kristen Bartlett Grace

