



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF INYO

For Clerk's Use Only:
AGENDA NUMBER

16

- Consent Departmental Correspondence Action Public Hearing
 Scheduled Time for Closed Session Informational

FROM: Inyo County Planning Department

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: January 21, 2014

SUBJECT: Listing and Designation of Critical Habitat for the Sierra Nevada Yellow-Legged Frog, the Northern Distinct Population Segment of the Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog, and the Yosemite Toad

RECOMMENDATION: Receive presentations from staff and Supervisors Arcularius and Tillemans about recent activities regarding the proposed listing and designation of critical habitat by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for the Sierra Nevada Yellow-Legged Frog, the Northern Distinct Population Segment of the Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog, and the Yosemite Toad; consider attendance at the upcoming USFWS public hearing regarding the proposals in Sacramento, and; otherwise provide direction.

SUMMARY DISCUSSION: USFWS has issued notices indicating its intent to adopt regulations to list and designate critical habitat for the Sierra Nevada Yellow-Legged Frog, the Northern Distinct Population Segment of the Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog, and the Yosemite Toad.¹ Critical habitat for these species is proposed in Inyo County and adjacent to the County along the crest of the Sierra Nevada. Threats to the various species identified include habitat destruction, recreation (including trout stocking), dams and reservoir diversion, livestock use (grazing), packstock use, roads, timber harvest, fire management activities, disease, climate change, and pollution.

Recently, USFWS conducted a public meeting in Bridgeport on January 8, 2014 with assistance from the Inyo National Forest and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Staff and Supervisors Arcularius and Tillemans attended, and will brief the Board.

USFWS issued a draft economic Analysis (DEA) for the proposed critical habitat earlier in January. USFWS staff has indicated that the DEA focuses on administrative costs to the federal agencies from the proposed designation. Staff is reviewing with the assistance of Gruen + Gruen Associates, and plans to present a response for the Board's consideration on February 25, 2014.

USFWS staff has indicated that a public hearing will be held in Sacramento on January 30, 2014 regarding the proposals. Staff recommends that the Board provide direction regarding attendance.

ALTERNATIVES: N/A

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: Department of Interior, USFWS; other agencies with jurisdiction (U.S. Forest Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, etc.)

FINANCING: General fund resources are utilized to monitor federal rule making.

¹ Refer to http://inyoplanning.org/projects/USFW_YellowLeggedFrog.htm for more information regarding the proposals and the County's response.

<u>APPROVALS</u>	
COUNTY COUNSEL:	AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS AND ORDINANCES AND CLOSED SESSION AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by county counsel prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>
AUDITOR/CONTROLLER:	ACCOUNTING/FINANCE AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the auditor-controller prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR:	PERSONNEL AND RELATED ITEMS <i>(Must be reviewed and approved by the director of personnel services prior to submission to the board clerk.)</i>

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:

(Not to be signed until all approvals are received)



Date: 1/16/14