

United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2605 Sacramento, California 95825-1846

In Reply Refer To: 08ESMF00-2013-TA-0469-1

June 17, 2013

Subject: Three Sierra Amphibians Proposed Listing and Proposed Critical Habitat

Dear Interested Party,

We received your letter on the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's (Service) proposal 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.

Detailed information on the proposals, questions and answers, pdf maps and detailed electronic mapping files are available at http://www.fws.gov/sacramento/outreach/2013/04-4/outreach newsroom 2013-4-24.htm.

Subsection 4(b)(S)(E) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C.1531 et seq.), requires that a public hearing be held if one is requested within 45 days of the publication of a proposed rule. The Service received multiple requests to hold a public hearing in response to this proposal. The public hearing must be held during an open comment period. Although the current comment period will close shortly, we will have another 60 day comment period after release of the draft economic analysis of the proposed rule. Accordingly, a public hearing will be scheduled during that comment period to ensure all possible information on the proposal will be available prior to the hearing. Additionally we will likely hold at least one public meeting prior to the public hearing with the time and location to be announced.

We anticipate that information to be available in the third quarter of 2013 and will notify interested parties and the public when dates, times and locations are set. We appreciate your interest and participation.

Sincerely,

Jan Knight

Acting Field Supervisor