

Summary Sheet

Meeting dates: June 14-15, 2019

Agenda item: Oregon Silverspot Butterfly Periodic Status Review - Briefing, Public Hearing, and Decision.

Presenter(s): Taylor Cotten, Acting Diversity Division Manager

Background summary:

In accordance with WAC 220-610-110, department staff members will brief the Commission on the Periodic Status Review (PSR) for the Oregon silverspot butterfly. The PSR outline the current status of the species and includes information and comments provided by peer scientists and the public. The PSR recommend that the Oregon silverspot butterfly remain classified as endangered.

The Oregon silverspot butterfly was historically found along the coast from Grays Harbor County to northern California, but disappeared from Washington in the 1980s. The species was listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act in 1980, and as endangered under state law in 1993. WDFW has been working with a variety of partners since 1990 to restore suitable habitat for Oregon silverspot butterflies with the goal of eventually reintroducing them to the state. The department received 12 comments during the public review period; six supported the recommendation to maintain endangered status and six did not support expenditures for butterflies.

Staff recommendation:

Maintain endangered classification for the Oregon silverspot butterfly.

Policy issue(s) and expected outcome:

- Protect and conserve Washington's native wildlife
 - Continue recovery actions for these state-listed species
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Fiscal impacts of agency implementation:

No fiscal impacts beyond the status quo.

Public involvement process used and what you learned:

In February 2016, the agency sent out a press release and posted a request on our website to solicit information from the public to be included in the PSRs. In accordance with WAC regulations, individuals and organizations had one year to contribute information for the reviews. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) staff included this information as applicable in the status review documents. The documents were then reviewed by WDFW staff and external species experts before 90-day public comment periods on the document and our findings.

Action requested and/or proposed next steps:

Request a decision on the recommended status.

Draft motion language:

Motion: I move to maintain endangered status for the Oregon silverspot butterfly as presented by department staff.

Is there a "second"?

If so, then motion maker discusses basis for motion; other Commissioners discuss views on motion; amendments, if any, proposed and addressed.

Post decision communications plan:

News Release
WDFW Website

Form revised 2-15-18