

First email to State and Tribe American Ginseng Program Coordinators regarding Biology Working Group Questionnaire

Dear State and Tribe American Ginseng Coordinators,

As you know, in July 2017, the USFWS hosted a Federal/State/Tribe American Ginseng Coordination Meeting in Morgantown, West Virginia. A key outcome of the meeting was the establishment of four working groups (Biology, Enforcement, Outreach, and Regulatory) composed of representatives of the USFWS, States, and Tribe. The Biology Working Group has developed a brief questionnaire to gather information from the State and Tribe programs concerning monitoring wild American ginseng and potential funding sources for such monitoring. Your feedback to the attached questionnaire will assist the Working Group to develop recommendations on these important issues.

Please return the questionnaire to me (patricia_ford@fws.gov) by January 5, 2018.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Melissa Moser (see contact info below) or I.

We appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

The Ginseng Biology Working Group

Pat Ford/FWS (Co-Chair) (patricia_ford@fws.gov)

Melissa Moser/Ohio (Co-Chair) (melissa.moser@dnr.state.oh.us; (614) 265-6439)

Douglas Cox-Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin (dgcox@mitw.org)

Jason Denham-New York (jason.denham@dec.ny.gov)

Chris Firestone-Pennsylvania (cfirestone@pa.gov)

Lisa Kruse-Georgia (lisa.kruse@dnr.state.ga.us)

Hannah Texler-Minnesota (hannah.texler@state.mn.us)

Bob Trumbule-Maryland (robert.trumbule@maryland.gov)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: We are collecting this information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501) to help the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of monitoring ginseng populations, and the sustainability of this important species in trade. Your response is voluntary.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB has reviewed and approved this survey and assigned OMB Control Number 1090-0011.

Estimated Burden Statement: We estimate it will take you 13 minutes to complete the questionnaire, including time to read instructions, gather information, and complete and submit the questionnaire. You may submit comments on any aspect of this information collection to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 5275 Leesburg Pike, MS: BPHC, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803. Please do not send your survey to this address.