

# Multispecies Status Assessment Survey

USGS and USFWS are conducting a review on the use of multispecies status assessments in support of Endangered Species Act decisions. Your response to this brief survey will help us better understand how multispecies assessments are currently implemented within the community of practice.

Your email address ([dbfitzgerald@usgs.gov](mailto:dbfitzgerald@usgs.gov)) will be recorded when you submit this form. Not [dbfitzgerald?](#) [Sign out](#)

\* Required

## General Information

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### 1. Which multispecies status assessment did you participate in? \*

Please provide species names or a brief description. This includes multispecies SSAs, multispecies listing packages or recovery plans prior to the SSA framework, or any assessment process where information or resources were shared between species. If you have completed several, please select one representative assessment to consider while completing this survey.

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### 2. How many species were included in the status assessment? \*

If the number changed throughout the process, please provide the final number of species assessed jointly.

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### 3. What was the primary decision context for the multispecies assessment? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Candidate assessment
- Listing
- Critical habitat
- 5 year review
- Recovery planning
- Section 7
- Section 10
- Other

**4. Which best describes your role in the assessment process? \***

Mark only one oval.

- Species lead
- Project manager
- Regional or national coordinator
- Assessment team member
- Specialist or technical support
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**5. What year was the assessment completed?**

\_\_\_\_\_

## Decision to use a multispecies approach

Please answer the following questions related to why you chose to use a multispecies assessment rather than individual assessments.

**6. Was species biology a major factor for performing a multispecies assessment rather than individual assessments? \***

This may include taxonomic, geographic, ecological, or physiological aspects of the species.

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

**7. Were the anticipated threats to the species a major factor for performing a multispecies assessment rather than individual assessments? \***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

**8. Were species petitions a major factor for performing a multispecies assessment rather than individual assessments? \***

For example, if the species being petitioned as a group influenced the decision to assess them as a group.

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

**9. Was species priority status a major factor for performing a multispecies assessment rather than individual assessments? \***

Priority status may include Bin numbers, Listing Priority Numbers, or any internal ranking schemes for prioritizing assessments or ESA decisions.

*Mark only one oval.*

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

**10. Were administrative or policy concerns a major factor for performing a multispecies assessment rather than individual assessments? \***

Administrative or policy concerns may include regional directives, Federal Register processes, listing workplans, workload balancing, deadlines, or other factors unrelated to the species being assessed.

*Mark only one oval.*

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

**11. Are there species you considered including but ultimately did not? If so, please explain what impacted that decision.**

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## Details of the species included

Please answer the following questions about the specific species included in the assessment.

**12. Which of the following factors describe why these species were able to be assessed together?**

Please check all that apply.

*Check all that apply.*

- Similarities in their distributions
- Similarities in their life history
- Similarities in their habitat requirements
- Similarities in the threats to species persistence
- Close taxonomic relationships
- Limited data were available
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

13. **Did information arise during the assessment process that changed your opinion of whether these species should be assessed together? If yes, please provide the type of information. \***

For example, if new distribution data or changes in taxonomy were discovered during the assessment.

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14. **Were any species included or excluded after the assessment officially began? \***

Mark only one oval.

- Yes  
 No

## Attitudes towards multispecies assessments

Please indicate the level to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

15. **I am aware of written guidance (formal or informal) on how and when to combine multiple species in a single assessment process. \***

Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly agree

16. **Multispecies assessments are more efficient than a comparable number of single species assessments. \***

Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly agree

17. **Multispecies assessments lead to greater consistency compared to several independent assessments. \***

Consistency may be evaluated in terms of metrics or analyses used, level of detail provided, format of results, or similar aspects of the assessment.

Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly agree

18. **Using a multispecies assessment rather than several individual assessments will influence the ESA decision making process. \***

Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Strongly agree

**19. What is the maximum number of species you would combine in a single assessment?**

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**20. Can you describe any impediments to including multiple species in an assessment?**

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