

Churchill County  
Agenda Report

Date Submitted: May 1, 2008

Agenda Item: Consent #: K  
Agenda Date Requested: May 21, 2008

To: Board of Churchill County Commissioners  
From: Robert D. Williams, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Subject Title: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Review of the Bull Trout as an Endangered Species

Type of Action Requested:

Resolution  Ordinance  
 Formal Action/Motion  Other – Informational Only

Does this action require a Business Impact Statement? No

Recommended Board Action:

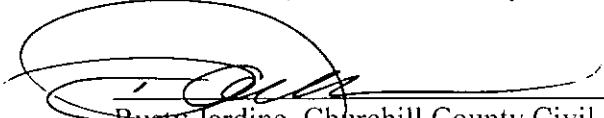
Discussion: The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has completed a 5-year review of the bull trout in order to make proper recommendations regarding protection under the Endangered Species Act. Bull trout have been identified in Distinct Population Segments in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Nevada; health of populations vary by location, but it was determined that overall the species would still need protection.

Prepared By: Julie B. Guerrero

Date: 05/01/08

Reviewed By:   
Brad Goetsch, Churchill County Manager

Date: 5/12/08

  
Rusty Jardine, Churchill County Civil  
Deputy Attorney

Date: 5/16/08

  
Alan Kalt, Churchill County Comptroller

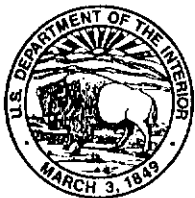
Date: 5/6/08

Board Action Taken:

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ 1) \_\_\_\_\_ Aye/Nay  
2) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Vote Recorded By)

May 21<sup>st</sup> Consensus  
mtg.  
Consensus Agenda  
[Signature]



# United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office  
1340 Financial Blvd., Suite 234  
Reno, Nevada 89502

Ph: (775) 861-6300 ~ Fax: (775) 861-6301

April 28, 2008

Dear Interested Party:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has completed its 5-year review of the bull trout. As a result of this review, the Service has two recommendations: Retain threatened status for the species as currently listed throughout its range in the coterminous United States for the time being, and evaluate whether Distinct Population Segments (DPSs) exist and merit protection under the Endangered Species Act.

Bull trout are found in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Nevada. In 1998, the Service identified five separate DPSs in the lower 48 states warranting protection under the Endangered Species Act and began listing these population units. In 1999, the five DPSs were combined into one DPS, which was listed as threatened. This review reaffirms threatened status for bull trout throughout the coterminous United States. It also recognizes that scientists still agree multiple distinct populations of bull trout exist and that the Service should evaluate whether to formally recognize these DPSs under the Act.

This review considered information that has become available since the time of listing and included a rigorous analysis by independent scientists and Fish and Wildlife Service managers. The health of bull trout populations varies by location, but overall the species still needs protection.

Evaluating the existence and status of multiple distinct populations may help the Service account for the variable health of bull trout populations and empower states, Native American Tribes and others to do more for bull trout locally. There are four main advantages of designating multiple DPSs of bull trout. The Service can focus regulatory protection and recovery resources to bull trout populations in trouble; we can remove the

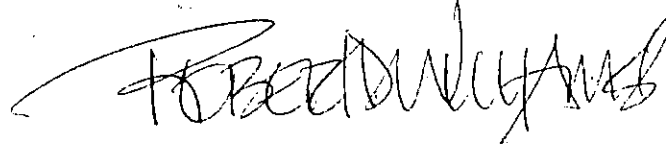


Interested Party

April 28, 2008

the Jarbidge population of bull trout, can be found at <http://www.fws.gov/nevada> or by contacting the Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office at the address above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert D. Williams". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "R" and "W".

Robert D. Williams  
Field Supervisor