

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200 Austin, Texas 78758 512 490-0057 FAX 490-0974



JUN 1 - 2015

Dan Byfield, CEO American Stewards of Liberty P.O. Box 1190 Taylor, TX 76574

Dear Mr. Byfield:

We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce a 90-day finding on a petition to remove the Bone Cave harvestman (Texella reyesi) from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act) (80 FR 30990). Based on our review, we find that the petition does not present substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted.

Section 4(b)(3)(A) of the Act requires that we make a finding on whether a petition to list, delist, or reclassify a species presents substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted. We are to base this finding on information provided in the petition, supporting information submitted with the petition, and information otherwise available in our files.

Although we've made a negative 90-day finding, the Service is beginning a 5-year status review process to review the species' status (80 FR 20241). This will provide the public the opportunity to submit new information on the species' status. The Endangered Species Act calls for the Service to conduct a status review of each listed species at least once every 5 years. The purpose of a 5-year review is to evaluate whether or not the species' status has changed since it was listed (or since the most recent 5-year review, which is December 4, 2009, for the Bone Cave harvestman). As part of this review, we will be working with others, including karst landowners, land managers, scientists, and others who may have new information outside our files on the status of this species. New information will be considered during the 5-year review and will also be useful in evaluating the ongoing conservation program for this species.

If you have any questions please contact Adam Zerrenner at 512-490-0057 or at Adam Zerrenner@fws.gov. If you have new information on the species' status, please email it to Adam Zerrenner@fws.gov or mail it to the address on the letterhead.

Sincerely,

Adam Zerrenner

Field Supervisor

