

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/9/2018 12:00:00 AM

First name: Anonymous

Last name: Anonymous

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Utah: Even accounting for the failure of the agency to obtain full surveys of the species habitat, population trends demonstrate that the number of Utah prairie dogs has increased and that the population is stable. The Utah prairie dog was listed as endangered and, after significant population growth, it was down-listed to threatened in 1984. The species is found only in the State of Utah. The state has proven they can maintain prairie dogs. The only thing impeding the state is federal meddling. work with the state on a successful partnership in light of any ill-founded ruling. Species conservation determined by federal judges is always bad policy which is another reminder of the inherent flaws with the Endangered Species Act and the need for reform. Colorado; concerning the Greater Sage Grouse Environmental Impact Statement, Colorado commissioner, had testified a few years ago that his County's request has been denied or had not been responded to. Agency need greater Transparency. Washington,: few years ago a farmer testified that the FWS failed to properly notify the county and affected private landowners about a proposal to list the White Bluffs bladderpod. He further testified that data cited by the FWS in the proposal was not accessible for public review, and that "references calling for more time for research due to inconclusive data" were "diminished." The County's own commissioned DNA study conducted by an independent university scientist contradicted the FWS' science in the listing. Agency must work for the people. Concern about the lack of federal ESA data transparency is not limited to listings, but must be to when rules will be changed to delisting healthy species as well.