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Comments: Increased transparency can provide more effective species recovery and increase the credibility of highly controversial ESA listing decisions. Withholding data does not further the goal of species recovery and a lack of transparency only empowers those who have sought to maintain their power, money and authority by withholding scientific and financial data from the public, and this comes at the cost of recovering species. Data transparency can enhance species recovery by forcing a discussion and debate about data and how species recovery is prioritized. If data are withheld, there is no opportunity for that debate. Specific examples of where data transparency has already led to more effective efforts on species recovery include the California condor, the Boreal toad, and the Peregrine falcon.