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Comments: I am a retired USDA employee working in the agricultural policy area for over 35 years. I know the short sighted vision of many of our political appointed and elected officials and respect them for their service. However, sound judgement based in science should guide their decisions, not short term political goals. The pressure that public policy puts on our natural resources, including habitat destruction and species survival, is real and yet, often neglected. Of course, these concerns do not produce votes, but they have long term impacts on future generations and even on human survival.

Please consider these factors as well as those that seem to be paramount to appease those that favor short-term economic goals.