

American Pika 12-month Status Review

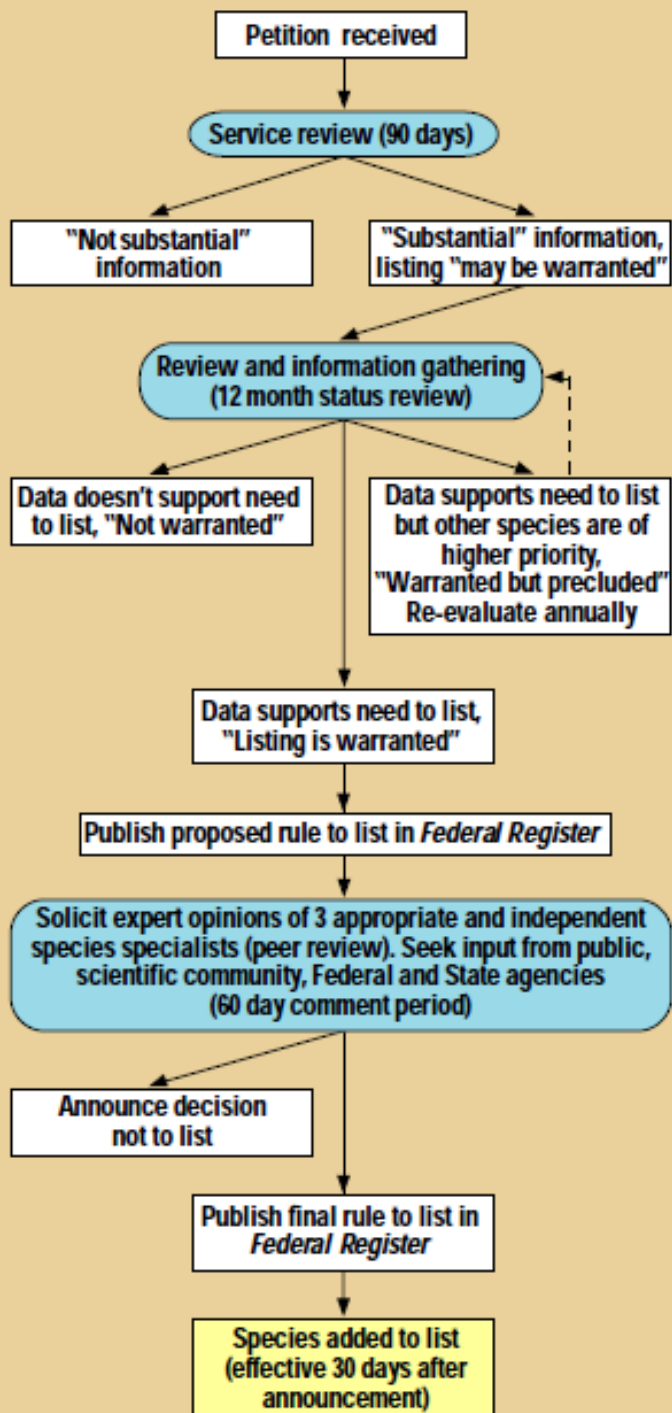
A photograph of an American Pika, a small brown rodent, perched on a grey rock. The pika is facing right, looking towards the edge of the frame. The background is a blurred, rocky landscape.

US Fish and Wildlife Service

Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Office

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The ESA Listing Process

Can be listed at either:

- 1) Species Level
- or
- 2) Subspecies and/or Distinct Population Segment Level

Five Factor Analysis

- Factor A – Present or Threatened Destruction, Modification or Curtailment of Habitat
- Factor B – Overutilization for commercial, Recreational, Scientific, or Educational Purposes
- Factor C – Disease or Predation
- Factor D – Inadequacy of Existing Regulatory Mechanisms
- Factor E – Other Natural or Manmade Threats

Data Gaps

- Survey data for each of the 10 states and Canada (most states are lacking)
- Need to work with Canada on combining efforts to collect survey and trend information; Canada has a large portion of the range
- Need more trend information and to be tracking the same populations overtime
 - Long-term datasets will be key for evaluating species that are potentially being impacted by climate change
- Need to better understand the variables that are most useful in predicting extirpation (focus so far has been on climate variables); there may be other variables that are important, but is anyone looking?
 - Determine the utility of bioclimatic envelope models

Data Gaps

- Conversely, need to better understand the variables that allow for pika persistence
 - Common habitat variables across the range of the species
 - More research looking at relationship between subsurface microclimate and persistence/extirpation
- Information on disease in pikas is limited
- Birth rates / survival rates
 - few existing data sets; comparisons between “optimal” habitats and “less optimal” habitats
- When conducting research, should we focus on the indicator species (like the pika) or a community assemblage of multiple species that use the same habitat as pikas?