



January 31, 2017

Cynthia Dohner, Regional Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southeast Region
1875 Century Blvd., Suite 400
Atlanta, GA 30345

RE: Withdrawal of Petitions for Succarnoochee River Crayfish and Saline Burrowing Crayfish

Dear Director Dohner:

Based on new information provided to us by scientists, we are writing to withdraw the Saline Burrowing Crayfish (*Fallicambarus strawni*) from Arkansas and the Succarnoochee River Crayfish (*Orconectes jonesi*) from Alabama and Mississippi from the 2010 Southeast freshwater multispecies petition. The Service issued positive 90-day findings for these two species on September 27, 2011 (76 FR 59836).

We appreciate the funding that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has provided to scientists to gather updated information on the vulnerable freshwater fauna of the Southeast, which has already lost far too many species to extinction. New data on species status and threats made possible by funding from the Service has provided states and agencies with information they need to take steps to proactively safeguard imperiled species, and will allow conservation efforts to focus on the species most in need of protection.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions and to share additional information as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

Tierra Curry
Senior Scientist
Center for Biological Diversity
PO Box 11374
Portland, OR 97211
tcurry@biologicaldiversity.org