



July 16, 2018

Douglas Krofta, Chief
Branch of Listing, Endangered Species Program
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 420
Arlington, VA 22203

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

RE: Withdrawal of Petitions for Two Mississippi Crayfishes

Dear U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

In 2010 the Center for Biological Diversity and allies petitioned the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect the Bearded Red Crayfish and the Mississippi Flatwoods Crayfish under the Endangered Species Act. In light of updated scientific information¹ synonymizing the Bearded Red Crayfish (*Procambarus pogum*) and the Mississippi Flatwoods Crayfish (*Procambarus cometes*) with the more wide-spread and abundant Egyptian Crayfish (*P. hagenianus vesticeps*), we are writing to withdraw *P. pogum* and *P. cometes* from our 2010 petition.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

On behalf of all petitioners,

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¹ Schuster, G.A., C.A. Taylor, and S.B. Adams. 2018. *Procambarus (Girardiella) holifieldi*, a new species of crayfish (Decapoda: Cambaridae) from Alabama with a revision of the Hagenianus Group in the subgenus *Girardiella*. 4021 (1): 1–32.