



January 17, 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 15 Southeastern Species

Dear Director Dohner:

On April 20, 2010, the Center for Biological Diversity and allies petitioned for Endangered Species Act protection for 404 aquatic, riparian, and wetland species from the southeastern United States. To date 15 of the petitioned species have gained protection, and one has been proposed for protection.

In light of new information we have received on 15 of the petitioned species that are currently under status review, we hereby withdraw the species in the table below from the petition.

We are withdrawing these ten plants based on updated information from scientists from the Southeast Partners in Plant Conservation. We are withdrawing the five freshwater animals based on input from individual scientific experts and on information gathered from members of the Southeastern Fishes Council.

We appreciate the funding that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has provided to states and to scientists to gather updated information on the vulnerable freshwater fauna of the Southeast, which has already lost far too many species to extinction. Based on information we have received from scientists, we have now been able to withdraw 43 species from the petition. 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.

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

Common Name	Scientific Name	Group	Range
Apalachicola Floater	<i>Anodonta heardi</i>	Freshwater Mussels	FL, GA
Warrior Pigtoe	<i>Pleurobema rubellum</i>	Freshwater Mussels	AL
Savannah Lilliput	<i>Toxolasma pullus</i>	Freshwater Mussels	GA, NC, SC
One-toed Amphiuma	<i>Amphiuma pholeter</i>	Amphibians	AL, FL, GA, MS
Ouachita Madtom	<i>Noturus lachneri</i>	Fishes	AR
Narrowleaf Carolina Scalystem	<i>Elytraria caroliniensis</i> var. <i>angustifolia</i>	Flowering Plants	FL
Bighorn Hornwort	<i>Megaceros aenigmaticus</i> (<i>Megaceros enigmaticus</i> = <i>Nothoceros</i>)	Nonvascular Plants	GA, NC, TN
Gorge Leafy Liverwort	<i>Plagiochila caduciloba</i>	Nonvascular Plants	GA, KY, NC, SC, TN
Cumberland Reed Grass	<i>Calamovilfa arcuata</i>	Flowering Plants	AL, AR, GA, KY, OK, TN
Bear Tupelo (Dwarf Blackgum)	<i>Nyssa ursina</i>	Flowering Plants	FL
West Florida Cow Lily	<i>Nuphar advena</i> ssp. <i>ulvacea</i> (<i>Nuphar lutea</i> ssp. <i>ulvacea</i>)	Flowering Plants	AL, FL
Variableleaf Indian Plantain	<i>Arnoglossum diversifolium</i>	Flowering Plants	AL, FL, GA
Southern Racemose Goldenrod	<i>Solidago arenicola</i>	Flowering Plants	AL, GA, TN
Piedmont Barren (Lobed) Strawberry	<i>Waldsteinia lobata</i> = <i>Geum</i>	Flowering Plants	AL, GA, NC, SC
Sharp's Leafy Liverwort	<i>Plagiochila sharpii</i> ssp. <i>sharpii</i>	Nonvascular Plants	SC, TN

On behalf of all petitioners,



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