

**Slide 20: Conclusion**

We've just covered a lot of material about findings, purposes, policy, and definitions in the Endangered Species Act.

Let's remind ourselves of our original objective ...

**Slide 21: Objective**

We want to identify the values of species ... and understand how law and policy enables us to support those values through our work under Section 2 of the Endangered Species Act.

We covered a number of topics and tested your mastery with a couple of exercises.

**Slide 22: Review**

Please review these with me:

- Human activities cause extinctions;
- Species have value;
- The Endangered Species Act provides the means for conservation of species and ecosystems;
- All Federal agencies have a part.

**Slide 23: Review**

- "Species" includes subspecies ... and for vertebrates, distinct population segments;
- "Endangered" means in danger of extinction, throughout all or a significant portion of a species' range;
- "Threatened" means likely to become endangered throughout all or a significant portion of a species' range;
- "Conservation" means activities and actions that restore a species to the point where the Act is no longer necessary.

**Slide 24: Review**

- "Take" means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, capture, collect, or attempt to do any of these things;
- "Critical habitat" is an area with specific physical or biological features considered essential to a species' conservation;
- All parts of the Act work together, with conservation as the goal.

**Slide 25: Final Slide**

Since we're responsible for implementing a law – not just a concept – the purposes and terms need to be understood and used carefully. We must always understand the statutory context within which we operate under the Endangered Species Act.

But we don't necessarily have to work rigidly. The Act has flexibility. There is a hierarchy of laws, policies, regulations, and guidance. These regulations, policies, and guidance help us apply the law and also allow us some flexibility under the law.

Sections 2 and 3 lay the foundation for all of the other parts of this significant and successful law we know as the Endangered Species Act. Our understanding of fundamental terms is essential.

Thanks for joining me. Next up is "Section 4 – Determination of Endangered and Threatened Species.