

Slide 18: Conclusion

In conclusion, we just covered the Petition Process here in Module 3.

If you will remember, the objective of this section was...

Slide 19: Objective

...for you to be able to, given a scenario involving a petition, determine what action is being requested and whether the action is warranted in accordance with the requirements listed in section 4 of the ESA. In order to get you to that objective we covered several important topics and had you complete a couple of exercises.

Slide 20: In Review

If you'll remember...

Anyone can submit a petition requesting listing, delisting, or reclassification of a species, or to revise critical habitat.

You should also remember that the initial 90-day finding is either "may be warranted" or not substantial.

Further, if a "May be warranted" finding is made at 90 days, a status review is conducted with the possible outcomes of "Not warranted", "Warranted", or "Warranted but precluded".

And finally, for a "Warranted" finding, a proposed rule is prepared; "warranted but precluded" findings on listing or uplisting result in candidate status for the petitioned species.

Slide 21: Finish

That's why your role as the reviewer of listing petitions is so critical. You are the first technical expert to see and to evaluate what science and the public is putting before us for consideration for listing. Yours is the initial judgment that will be recommended on whether an animal or plant gets proposed for listing as endangered or threatened. The petition process is often where the entire endangered species process starts. Listing, recovery, and consultation all branch out from here.

So the petition process is fundamental to everything else that follows. We hope this topic has successfully acquainted you with the basics of petition review and the importance of a fair and honest review of listing petitions. It's that fundamental to the work we do!