

NO on Listing Five Snake Species as Injurious

Public Comments Processing

Attn: Docket No. FWS–R9–FHC–2008–0015

Division of Policy and Directives Management

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 222

Arlington, VA 22203

To U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

As an American citizen, I oppose the listing of any additional species of constrictor snakes, including Boa constrictor, Reticulated python, DeSchaunsee's anaconda, Green anaconda and Beni anaconda, as injurious under the Lacey Act. The proposal to list these snakes under the federal Lacey Act is opposed by a wide group of national organizations and stakeholders, including the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA), the United States Association of Reptile Keepers (USARK), the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC), and the Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy, just to name a few.

Any studies, including the USGS study, that originally prompted the listing have been discredited and contradicted in the time since the original proposal. Today, the best science available has demonstrated that none of these species are biologically suited to survive beyond southernmost Florida.

Listing additional species will harm animal welfare and destroy education programs, conservation efforts and family businesses. Even a trip across town with a pet could constitute a federal crime in greater metro areas. This is an overwhelming injustice on the right to travel for Americans.

A significant amount of time has passed since the last opportunity for public comment closed in 2010. Substantial new biological and economic information has become available since then. The proposed listings will have severe educational, economic, conservation and scientific impacts. This affects tens of thousands of American families and is based upon bad science.

Listing additional species will not protect the environment but it will destroy American freedoms, families and businesses. I appreciate your time to review my comment and make the correct decision by not adding additional species. Any other decision would be an unconstitutional and overreaching infringement on my freedoms as an American.

Sincerely,

Print Name

Address
