

NO on Adding Five Species of Snake 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,

I ask FWS to not list 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 interstate transportation ban is draconian because it prohibits moving an animal just a few feet, from one state where ownership is legal to another state where ownership is legal. 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. Boa constrictors, Reticulated pythons and Green anacondas are often used for educational outreach programs with presenters often travelling between states.

Studies have shown that up to \$100,000,000 annually would be lost in direct revenue in the pet industry by listing these species. Jobs and businesses will be lost as a result. This listing will impact pet owners, veterinarians, zoos, educational organizations, breeders, and others. This would be done without valid science to justify the listing of these snakes as injurious.

Temperature extremes were completely ignored in the USGS paper used to propose these species as injurious. Extremes are much more relevant than temperature means.

This rule is an unnecessary federal intrusion into state wildlife management and misuse of the Lacey Act. My freedoms as an American to responsibly keep these snakes as pets would be destroyed. Consider the impact of this ruling. Though there may be pressure from special interest groups to list these species, this is not justification to do so. The U.S. Government must make the appropriate decision to not add any species to the Constrictor Rule. Anything other than this decision is simply unconstitutional.

Sincerely,

Print Name

Address
