



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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**NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDE
TRANSMITTAL NOTICE NO. 63**

SUBJECT: ECS - Section II, Endangered Species Act (ESA) Consultation

Purpose: This notice transmits guidance on preparing a biological assessment, for insertion into the New Mexico FOTG Section II – Threatened and Endangered Species – ESA Consultation - Related Documents.

Effective Date: This notice is effective when received.

Explanation: When NRCS concludes on the Environmental Evaluation (form NRCS-CPA-52) that an action under NRCS control “*may affect*” federally listed species or designated critical habitat, NRCS must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

Consultation is initiated by NRCS submission of a biological assessment (BA) to the Service. The attached document provides guidance on how to prepare a biological assessment, training opportunities, and timelines and processes. (GM 190 Part 410.22(E)(5))

This document identifies field and State office staff responsibilities regarding informal consultation with the Service. (GM 190 Part 410.22(F)(6))

File: This document is accessible through New Mexico NRCS electronic Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG), Section II. Website: http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/efotg_locator.aspx

For questions or training on this document, please contact Chanda Pettie, State Biologist at (505) 761-4432 or at chanda.pettie@nm.usda.gov

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Chavez".

GEORGE CHAVEZ
State Resource Conservationist