

# News Release



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## Western Energy Alliance Responds to FWS Settlement

(Denver)- Today Western Energy Alliance released the following statement in response to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) legal settlement regarding 250 species under consideration for threatened or endangered status under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

"We understand the Fish and Wildlife Service's attempt to get out of the cycle of endless litigation with groups more interested in perpetuating their legal business than sensible on-the-ground species protection. However, this is an attempt to stop that cycle with only one of many groups," said Kathleen Sgamma, Director of Government and Public Affairs.

"There will be others that will sue, and like-minded groups now have a model to force the government to settle while reaping taxpayer funded legal fees which do nothing to actually protect threatened or endangered species. There will be no certainty for the American taxpayer until Congress stops the federal government from funding the environmental litigation industry."

[Click here to read the announced agreement.](#)

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*Western Energy Alliance, founded in 1974, is a non-profit trade association representing more than 400 companies engaged in all aspects of environmentally responsible exploration and production of oil and natural gas in the West. More information on Western Energy Alliance and its members is available at [www.westernenergyalliance.org](http://www.westernenergyalliance.org).*