

In Need of Conservation — Housekeeping

What is being considered?

The Department is considering changing the word conversation to conservation in COMAR 08.02.12.01B(2)(c) to avoid confusion in regulation due to a clerical error. This is a housekeeping issue with a definition. The text being corrected is below.

- (2) "Species in need of conservation" means any species which:
- (a) May become threatened in the foreseeable future;
 - (b) Has a limited or declining population; and
 - (c) Has been determined by the Secretary to be in need of conversation measures for its continued ability to sustain itself successfully.

Why is this change necessary?

This action is necessary to prevent the public from misunderstanding the intent of the regulation because the wrong word was used.

Who will this affect?

This change does not affect anyone directly since it is a spelling correction.

When will this be effective?

The Department projects that this change could be effective in the winter of 2024-2025. However, the exact date cannot be determined. The Department will follow our normal proposal procedures if this concept moves forward.

Definitions

"Conserve" means to use all methods and procedures for the purpose of increasing the number of individuals within a species or population up to the optimum carrying capacity of their habitat and maintaining these levels.

What is the specific regulatory action?

Amend Regulation .01 under COMAR 08.02.12 Endangered and Threatened Fish Species.

Has this change been discussed with advisory bodies?

This idea was scoped with the Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission and the Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission at their meetings in July 2024.