



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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TWO NEVADA FISHES LISTED AS ENDANGERED SPECIES UNDER EMERGENCY RULE

Two desert fishes in Nye County, Nevada, have been listed as endangered species under an emergency rulemaking published in the May 10, 1982, Federal Register by the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The emergency listing was necessary to protect the fishes from imminent threat to their survival caused by private land development activities now occurring in an area known as Ash Meadows. The listing takes effect immediately and will remain effective for 240 days.

This action will halt any potential harm to these species and will allow Interior to work with the developer on project modifications, the Department said.

If no action is taken during the 240-day-period to list the species through ordinary rulemaking procedures, the emergency listing will expire and the species will no longer be protected under the Endangered Species Act.

The endangered fishes are the Ash Meadows Amargosa pupfish and the Ash Meadows speckled dace. They are found only in Ash Meadows, a unique 40,000-acre desert wetland in Nye County, about 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

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