

Species Status Assessment and Listing of the Sonoyta Mud Turtle under the Endangered Species Act. Cat Crawford, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Tucson

Cat Crawford has been working as a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Tucson since 2008. Previously she worked for the Arizona Game and Fish Department and U.S. Forest Service as a biologist and also served as an officer in the U.S. Air Force as an environmental engineer. Cat considers herself a master of nothing and dabbler in everything, which currently happens to include working with people to conserve a few reptiles and amphibians under the auspices of the Endangered Species Act. Her favorite part of her job is listening to the individual stories and learning the values that bring each person to the conservation table, so to speak. In her free time, Cat can be found creating water-harvesting structures in her neighborhood, hiking with her dog in the mountains, or climbing the myriad of rock faces that southern Arizona has to offer.

Her current projects with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that have common interest with the Tucson Herpetological Society include conservation of the Chiricahua leopard frog, Sonoran tiger salamander, Sonoyta mud turtle, and flat-tailed horned lizard. She will be discussing the species status assessment recently completed for the Sonoyta mud turtle along with the subsequent decision to list the species as endangered. The “Species Status Assessment Framework” is an integrated and conservation-focused analytical approach that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently developed to assess a species biological status for the purpose of informing decisions and activities under the Endangered Species Act.



Cat releasing metamorph Chiricahua Leopard Frogs in the Galiuro Mountains.

17 January 2018, 7:15 pm, Ward 3 Conference Room, 1510 E Grant. Pre-meeting gathering at Rubios, 2906 N Campbell. 5:30 pm.

