

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1 Marshlands Road
Fremont, California 94555

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Peer Reviewer Confidentiality Agreement

As a reviewer of the report titled "An assessment of the potential hazards of anticoagulant rodenticides to Plethodontid salamanders" being considered as a Decision Support Tool by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), I understand that I have the duty to maintain the confidentiality of:

- (1) all materials and information submitted; and
- (2) all findings, determinations, outcomes, and comments associated with the reviews I perform.

I understand that the duty of confidentiality prohibits me from purposefully disclosing confidential information and requires me to act with due care in order to avoid the inadvertent disclosure of confidential information. Confidential information includes but is not limited to the report and other supporting documents, reviewer assignment, the identity of author(s), as well as the research and all other proprietary information submitted by the author(s).

I understand that this duty extends beyond the period of time during which I serve as a reviewer for the FWS until the FWS releases a Final EIS, the report and peer reviews (including reviewer names and affiliations) to the public. As such, confidentiality will apply to information and materials to which I had access during my time as a reviewer.

I agree to take all reasonable steps to ensure that no use by me, or by any third parties, shall be made of any FWS confidential material. Further, I agree to return to the FWS all documentation I received for the purpose of review and not to retain any copies of such documentation.

I agree not to disclose confidential FWS or author information to people outside the FWS, without prior approval of the FWS Farallon Islands National Wildlife Refuge Manager.

I understand that any deviation from the code of confidentiality may be grounds for immediate dismissal as a peer reviewer and possible legal action.

Reviewer's Name (printed): Gregory R. Howald

Reviewer's Signature: 

Date: March 6, 2018