

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2735

To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require establishment of objective numerical recovery goals for removal of species from lists of endangered species and threatened species under that Act, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2015

Mr. CONAWAY (for himself and Mr. WESTERMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require establishment of objective numerical recovery goals for removal of species from lists of endangered species and threatened species under that Act, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Accountable Recovery  
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. OBJECTIVE NUMERICAL GOALS FOR REMOVAL OF**  
2 **SPECIES FROM LISTS OF ENDANGERED SPE-**  
3 **CIES AND THREATENED SPECIES.**

4 Section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973  
5 (16 U.S.C. 1533(f)) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (1)—

7 (A) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
8 (A), by striking “develop and” and inserting “,  
9 at the time of a determination in accordance  
10 with subsection (a), develop, make publicly  
11 available, and propose to”; and

12 (B) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by inserting  
13 “, including objective numerical recovery goals,”  
14 after “criteria”; and

15 (2) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(5)(A) Before the end of the 30-day period begin-  
17 ning on the date the Secretary receives a petition from  
18 a State in which is located a species included in a list  
19 under subsection (c), or from any other interested State  
20 or other person, that objective numerical recovery goals  
21 required for the species under subsection (f)(1)(B)(ii) have  
22 been achieved, the Secretary may determine that the peti-  
23 tion does not present such substantial information, or that  
24 such goals have not been achieved, and publish the reasons  
25 for such determination.

1       “(B) A species that is the subject of a petition re-  
2       ferred to in subparagraph (A) is deemed to have been re-  
3       moved from the lists published under subsection (c) upon  
4       the end of such 30-day period if the Secretary has not  
5       issued a determination under subparagraph (A).”.

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