



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240



JAN 12 2010

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/AES/DCHRS/043676

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region 2

From: **Acting** Director

Subject: 4(f)(1) Determination Regarding Recovery Planning for the Jaguar (*Panthera onca*)

In response to the March 31, 2009, decision by the Arizona District Court (Court) in *Center for Biological Diversity v. Kempthorne*, No. CV 07-372 TUC JMR, consolidated with *Defenders of Wildlife v. Hall*, No. CV 08-335 TUC JMR (D. Ariz), and after considering your December 31, 2009 recommendation, I have determined that development of a recovery plan for jaguars will contribute to their conservation. Therefore, Region 2 should prepare a recovery plan, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. §1533(f)(1), for jaguars.

Recognizing that most of the habitat for this species and almost all individuals of this species occur outside of the United States, the extent and details of the plan will need to be clarified and focused as you proceed with the planning process. Given the novel circumstances of this species, you should keep the Endangered Species Program staff in the Washington Office apprised of your efforts.