

**AMENDMENT TO FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
MANUAL CHAPTER 501 FW 3, APPENDIX 1**

Series: Interagency, Intergovernmental and International Activities, and Environmental Quality Series
Part 501: Interagency Activities – General
501 FW 3, Appendix 1: FWS Endangered Species Act Compensatory Mitigation Policy, published 5/10/2023
Amendment Number: 1
Purpose: This amendment corrects language in the Endangered Species Act Compensatory Mitigation Policy in section 7.6 regarding acceptance of research as compensatory mitigation. The corrected language better conforms with similar language in the Mitigation Policy (501 FW 2, Appendix 1) in section 6.6.3.2.

Actions:

Under section 7.6, the final paragraph will be corrected:

“In rare circumstances, a proponent can include as part of a mitigation package research or education that they can link directly to the relative threats to the species and show a quantifiable benefit to the species. Although research can assist in identifying substitute resources, it does not replace impacted resources or adequately compensate for adverse effects to species or habitat. See the Service’s Mitigation Policy for additional guidance on appropriate uses of research or education as mitigation.”

The corrected paragraph reads:

“In rare circumstances, a proponent can include as part of a mitigation package research or education that they can link directly to the relative threats to the species or show a quantifiable benefit to the species. See the Service’s Mitigation Policy for additional guidance on appropriate uses of research or education as mitigation.”

DEPUTY DIRECTOR