



rec'd March 3, 2010

February 16, 2010

Gary Locke
U.S. Secretary of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dr. James W. Balsiger
Acting Assistant Administrator
NOAA Fisheries Service
1315 East West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Ken Salazar
U.S. Secretary of the Interior
1849 C. Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Sam Hamilton, Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C. Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

SENT VIA CERTIFIED U.S. POSTAL MAIL

Re: Petition to List the Warsaw Grouper (*Epinephelus nigritus*) under the
Endangered Species Act

Dear Sirs:

WildEarth Guardians hereby submits a petition to list the Warsaw Grouper (*Epinephelus nigritus*) as "threatened" or "endangered" under the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C § 1531 *et seq.*) and to designate critical habitat to ensure its recovery.

WildEarth Guardians is a regional conservation organization with offices in Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico. The mission of WildEarth Guardians is to protect and restore wildlife, wild rivers, and wild places in the American West. Our focus is the Western United States, but our scope is national.

This petition is filed under 16 U.S.C. § 1533(b)(3)(A) and 50 C.F.R. § 424.19, which give interested persons the right to petition for the issuance of a rule.

The enclosed CD contains our petition and supporting documents, all in PDF format. Please let me know immediately if you have any difficulty reading the files.

Sincerely,

Nicole Rosmarino, Ph.D.
Wildlife Program Director

1536 Wynkoop Street, Ste. 301

Denver, CO 80202

303-573-4898

www.wildearthguardians.org

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