

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SPECIES, HABITAT, OPERATIONS COMMITTEE CONTINUED

Texas Hornshell Mussel (THM)

- FWS published a proposed rule on June 10, 2021 to designate critical habitat for the THM, including the Black and Delaware Rivers. Comments were due by August 9, 2021.
- FWS is requesting comments on whether the CCA and CCAA for the THM should exclude the Black and Delaware Rivers in NM and TX from being designated as critical habitat.
- SHOC contemplated submitting comments, however, did not do so. It was felt that the comments which were submitted by CEHMM as the administrator of the THM CCAA would be sufficient, and convey the sentiment of the SHOC regarding the designation of critical habitat.
- Comment period for the EA for the designation of Critical Habitat closed December 2, 2021, we anticipate publication of comment review and FONSI in the first quarter of 2022.

The next scheduled meeting of the SHOC is December 8, 2021.