

**Economic Impact Statement**

LSA Document #11-196

**IC 4-22-2.1-5 Statement Concerning Rules Affecting Small Businesses****Estimated Number of Small Businesses Subject to this Rule:**

None. These amendments remove one species, the four-toed salamander, from the list of endangered species, and add two species, the plains leopard frog and mole salamander, to the list. Endangered species cannot be collected from the wild, except with a scientific purposes license. Certain construction projects in a floodway would require a permit from the Indiana DNR ([IC 14-28-1](#)), and businesses could be impacted if one of these endangered species is found at the proposed project site. The presence of one of these species at a project site would typically not prevent the work from being done but could increase costs to modify plans to help protect the population of the species that may be present in order to prevent unreasonably detrimental impacts to their populations ([IC 14-28-1-23](#)). However, the mole salamander has been found only in a single population in Point Township in Posey County and it is on state property. Therefore, their status as an endangered species is not likely to affect any projects due to the fact that they live in gum and cypress ponds and on state property where construction would not be likely to take place anyways. Plains leopard frogs have been documented in only five counties in Indiana in farm ponds, sluggish streams, and wet meadows, and recent surveys in several of these counties have found this species of frog in only one location. Therefore, the DNR believes that very few of these populations exist, and few, if any, construction projects should be impacted.

**Estimated Average Annual Reporting, Record Keeping, and Other Administrative Costs Small Businesses Will Incur for Compliance:**

None.

**Estimated Total Annual Economic Impact on Small Businesses to Comply:**

None.

**Justification Statement of Requirement or Cost:**

Not applicable.

**Regulatory Flexibility Analysis of Alternative Methods:**

Not applicable.

*Posted: 06/15/2011 by Legislative Services Agency*

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