

Source of flooding and location of referenced elevation	◆ Elevation in feet (NAVD)		Communities affected
	Existing	Modified	
Approximately 1,000 feet upstream of the confluence with Big Cotton Indian Creek.	◆ 654	◆ 655	

**Unincorporated Areas of Henry County, Georgia:**

Maps are available for inspection at the Community Map Repository, 140 Henry Parkway, McDonough, Georgia.

Send comments to Mr. Rob Magnaghi, Henry County Manager, 140 Henry Parkway, McDonough, Georgia 30253.

◆ North American Vertical Datum.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 83.100, "Flood Insurance.")

Dated: September 26, 2005.

**David I. Maurstad,**

Acting Director, Mitigation Division,  
Emergency Preparedness and Response  
Directorate.

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BILLING CODE 9110-12-P

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Fish and Wildlife Service****50 CFR Part 17****RIN 1018-AG23****Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Proposed Endangered Status for 12 Species of Hawaiian Picture-Wings**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; reopening of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), announce the reopening of the comment period on the proposal to list 12 species of Hawaiian picture-wings as endangered to allow peer reviewers and all interested parties another opportunity to submit comments on the rule.

**DATES:** Comments from all interested parties must be received by November 3, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments and materials concerning the proposal by any one of the following methods:

1. You may submit comments and information to Patrick Leonard, Field Supervisor, Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office (PIFWO), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 3-122, P.O. Box 50088, Honolulu, HI 96850;

2. You may hand-deliver written comments and information to our

PIFWO at the above address given above;

3. You may also send comments by electronic mail (e-mail) to [12pic\\_species\\_listing@fws.gov](mailto:12pic_species_listing@fws.gov). For directions on how to submit electronic filing of comments, see the "Public Comments Solicited" section; or

4. You may fax your comments to 808/792-9581.

All comments and materials received, as well as supporting documentation used in preparation of the proposed rule, will be available for public inspection, by appointment during normal business hours at our PIFWO at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Patrick Leonard, Field Supervisor, at the above address (telephone 808/792-9400; facsimile 808/792-9581).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

On January 17, 2001, we published a proposed rule to list as endangered 12 species of Hawaiian picture-wings: *Drosophila aglaia*, *D. differens*, *D. hemipeza*, *D. heteroneura*, *D. montgomeryi*, *D. mulli*, *D. musaphilia*, *D. neoclavisetae*, *D. obatai*, *D. ochrobasis*, *D. substenoptera*, and *D. tarphytrichia* (66 FR 3964).

These insect species, known as Hawaiian picture-wings, are part of the intensely studied family, Drosophilidae, found throughout the main islands of the Hawaiian archipelago. Hawaiian picture-wings are known for their elaborate markings on otherwise clear wings. They also have been called the "birds of paradise" of the insect world because of their spectacular courtship displays and defense of their territories.

As many as 1,000 species of Hawaiian picture-wing may exist, each one adapted not only to a particular island, but to a specific habitat type. Individual species have adapted to a wide diversity of ecosystems ranging from desert-like habitats to rain forests and swamplands. In many cases, a species requires a specific native plant host during portions of its breeding cycle.

Each of the 12 Hawaiian picture-wing species in the proposed listing rule is found only on a single island, and each breeds only on a single or a few related species of plants, some of which are also listed as threatened or endangered species. Six of the picture-wing species are found on Oahu, three species on the island of Hawaii (Big Island), and one species on each of the islands of Kauai, Molokai, and Maui. One of the Big Island species was thought to be extinct until an extremely small population was rediscovered in 1993.

Threats to the continued existence of these species include habitat degradation caused by feral animals and nonnative weeds, habitat loss from fire, biological pest control, and predation from alien ants and wasps. Three of the picture-wing species exist in such a small number of populations that naturally occurring events such as hurricanes and landslides could eliminate them.

In our January 17, 2001, proposed rule and associated notifications, we requested that all interested parties submit comments, data, or other information that might contribute to the development of a final rule. A 60-day comment period closed on March 19, 2001. Pursuant to a settlement agreement approved by the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii on August 31, 2005, the Service must make a final listing decision for these 12 Hawaiian picture-wing species by April 17, 2006. If the final listing determination results in the listing of one or more of the 12 species and a critical habitat designation is found to be prudent, the Service must submit to the **Federal Register** a proposed critical habitat determination by September 15, 2006, and final critical habitat determination by April 16, 2007 (*Center for Biological Diversity v. Allen*, CV-05-27400326 JE).

**Public Comments Solicited**

We intend that any final action resulting from the proposal be as accurate and as effective as possible. Therefore, we are reopening the

comment period for 30 days (see **DATES** above), which gives additional time for all interested parties to consider the information provided in the proposed rule and submit comments on the proposed listing. Comments from the public regarding the proposed rule are sought, especially concerning:

(1) Biological, commercial trade, or other relevant data concerning any threats (or lack thereof) to the 12 Hawaiian picture-wing species;

(2) The location of any additional populations of the 12 Hawaiian picture-wing species;

(3) Additional information on the range, distribution, and population sizes of these species;

(4) Current or planned activities in the areas inhabited by the 12 Hawaiian picture-wing species and the possible impacts of these activities on these species; and

(5) The reasons why critical habitat is or is not prudent as provided by section 4 of the Act.

If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments and materials concerning this proposal by any one of several methods (see **ADDRESSES** section). Please submit Internet comments to

*12pic\_species\_listing@fws.gov* in ASCII file format and avoid the use of special characters or any form of encryption. Please also include "Attn: RIN 1018-AH55" in your e-mail subject header and your name and return address in the body of your message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your Internet message, contact us directly by calling our PIFWO at 808/792-9400. Please note that the Internet address, *12pic\_species\_listing@fws.gov*, will be closed at the termination of the public comment period.

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home addresses from the rulemaking record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the rulemaking record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not

consider anonymous comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Comments and materials received, as well as supporting documentation used in preparation of the January 17, 2001, proposal to list the 12 Hawaiian picture-wings as endangered, will be available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at our PIFWO at the address given above.

#### **Author**

The primary author of this notice is Michael Richardson (see **ADDRESSES** section above).

#### **Authority**

The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: September 21, 2005.

**Marshall P. Jones Jr.,**

*Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 05-19594 Filed 10-3-05; 8:45 am]

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