DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Bureau of Customs and Border Protection

Automated Commercial Environment (ACE): National Customs Automation Program Test Of Automated Truck Manifest for Truck Carrier Accounts; Deployment Schedule

AGENCY: Customs and Border Protection; Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, in conjunction with the Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, is currently conducting a National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) test concerning the transmission of automated truck manifest data. This document announces the next groups, or clusters, of ports to be deployed for this test.

DATES: The cluster of ports identified individually in this notice, deploying in the states of Texas and New Mexico, were deployed as of March 1, 2006. The cluster encompassing Laredo, Texas, and its bridges, is expected to deploy no earlier than April 5, 2006. A third cluster of ports, all in the State of California and also identified individually in this notice, are expected to deploy no earlier than May 1, 2006. Comments concerning this notice and all aspects of the announced test may be submitted at any time during the test period.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. James Swanson via e-mail at *james.d.swanson@dhs.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The National Customs Automation Program (NCAP) test concerning the transmission of automated truck manifest data for truck carrier accounts was announced in a General Notice published in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 55167) on September 13, 2004. That notice stated that the test of the Automated Truck Manifest would be conducted in a phased approach, with primary deployment scheduled for no earlier than November 29, 2004. The document identified the ports of Blaine, Washington, and Buffalo, New York, as the original deployment sites.

The September 13, 2004, notice stated that subsequent deployment of the test would occur at Champlain, New York; Detroit, Michigan; Laredo, Texas; Otay Mesa, California; and Port Huron, Michigan, on dates to be announced. The notice stated that the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) would announce the implementation and sequencing of truck manifest functionality at these ports as they occur and further stated that additional participants and ports would be selected throughout the duration of the test. The test is to be expanded eventually to include ACE Truck Carrier Account participants at all land border ports, and subsequent releases of ACE will include all modes of transportation.

Implementation of the Test

The test commenced in Blaine, Washington in December 2004, but not at Buffalo, New York. In light of experience with the implementation of the test in Blaine, Washington, CBP decided to change the implementation schedule and published a General Notice in the **Federal Register** (70 FR 30964) on May 31, 2005, announcing the changes.

As noted in the May 31, 2005, General Notice, CBP is phasing in the deployment of the Automated Truck Manifest test in clusters. In some instances, one site in the cluster is identified as the ''model site'' or ''model port'' for the cluster. This deployment strategy allows for more efficient equipment set-up, site checkouts, port briefings and central training.

The ports identified belonging to the first cluster announced in the May 31, 2005, notice included the original port of implementation: Blaine, Washington. Sumas, Washington, was designated as the model port. The other ports of deployment in the cluster included the following: Point Roberts, WA; Oroville, WA (including sub ports); Boundary, WA; Danville, WA; Ferry, WA; Frontier, WA; Laurier, WA; Metaline Falls, WA; Nighthawk, WA; and Lynden, WA.

In a notice published in the **Federal Register** (70 FR 43892) on July 29, 2005, CBP announced that the test was being further deployed, in two clusters, at ports in the States of Arizona and North Dakota. CBP stated that the test would be deployed at the following ports in Arizona as of July 25, 2005: Douglas, AZ; Naco, AZ; Lukeville, AZ; Sasabe, AZ; and Nogales, AZ. Douglas, AZ was designated as the model port. The test was also to be deployed, according to information provided in the notice, at the following ports in North Dakota as of August 15, 2005: Pembina, ND; Neche, ND; Noyes, ND; Walhalla, ND; Maida, ND; Hannah, ND; Sarles, ND; and Hansboro, ND. Pembina, ND, was designated as the model port.

In a General Notice published in the **Federal Register** (70 FR 60096) on October 14, 2005, CBP announced that the test was to be further deployed in a cluster of ports, in the State of Michigan, no earlier than the dates indicated as follows (all in the year 2005): Windsor Tunnel, October 4; Barge Transport, October 5; Ambassador Bridge, October 7; Port Huron, October 14; Marine City, October 18; Algonac, October 18; and Sault St. Marie, October 28. No port in this cluster was designated as a ''model port.''

CBP next announced, in a General Notice published in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 3875) on January 24, 2006, two additional clusters of ports to be brought up for purposes of implementation of the test. These ports were all to be deployed no earlier than January 2006, in one cluster at Eagle Pass, Texas and Del Rio, Texas and in another cluster at the following ports: Brownsville, Texas; Pharr, Texas; Progresso, Texas; Rio Grande City, Texas; and Roma, Texas. No ports in these clusters were designated as ''model ports.''

New Clusters

Through this notice, CBP announces the next clusters of ports. The test was deployed as of March 1, 2006 at the following ports in the States of Texas and New Mexico: El Paso, Texas; Presidio, Texas; Columbus, New Mexico; and Santa Teresa, New Mexico. A cluster encompassing Laredo, Texas, and its bridges, is expected to deploy no earlier than April 5, 2006. The cluster of ports in the State of California at which the test is expected to deploy no earlier than May 1, 2006, will consist of: Otay Mesa, California; Calexico, California; Andrade, California; Tecate, California; and San Luis, California. No port in any of the three new clusters has been designated as a ''model port.''

Previous NCAP Notices Not Concerning Deployment Schedules

On Monday, March 21, 2005, a General Notice was published in the **Federal Register** (70 FR 13514) announcing a modification to the NCAP test to clarify that all relevant data elements are required to be submitted in the automated truck manifest submission. That notice did not announce any change to the deployment schedule and is not affected by publication of this notice. All requirements and aspects of the test, as set forth in the September 13, 2004 notice, as modified by the March 21, 2005 notice, continue to be applicable.

Dated: April 20, 2006.

Jayson P. Ahern,

Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Draft Recovery Plan for Two Plants From Rota (*Nesogenes rotensis* and *Osmoxylon mariannense*)

AGENCY: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of document availability for review and comment.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce the availability of the Draft Recovery Plan for Two Plants from Rota (*Nesogenes rotensis* and *Osmoxylon mariannense*) (no common names) for public review and comment.

DATES: Comments on the draft recovery plan must be received on or before June 26, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft recovery plan are available by request from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office, 300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 3–122, Box 50088, Honolulu, Hawaii 96850 (telephone: 808–792–9400). An electronic copy of the draft recovery plan is also available at: *http://endangered.fws.gov/recovery/index.html#plans.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Field Supervisor, at the above Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Restoring endangered or threatened animals and plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystems is a primary goal of our endangered species program. The Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (ESA) requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Recovery plans help guide the recovery effort by describing actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establishing criteria for downlisting or delisting listed species, and estimating time and cost for implementing the measures needed for recovery.

Section 4(f) of the ESA requires that public notice, and an opportunity for public review and comment, be provided during recovery plan development. We will consider all information presented during the public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised recovery plan. Substantive comments on the recovery needs of the species or other aspects of recovery plan development may result in changes to the recovery plan. Substantive comments regarding recovery plan implementation may not necessarily result in changes to the recovery plan, but will be forwarded to appropriate Federal or other entities so that they can take these comments into account during the course of implementing recovery actions. Individual responses to comments will not be provided.

Nesogenes rotensis and *Osmoxylon mariannense* are found only on the island of Rota in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). Both species were federally listed as endangered in 2004 (69 FR 18499), and *O. mariannense* is also protected by the government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). Currently, there are 2 known populations of *N. rotensis* consisting of 15 to 20 plants each. There are 10 known individuals of *O. mariannense* scattered through the Sabana (the cloudswept plateau that dominates the western half of Rota), including 2 individuals outplanted from past controlled propagation efforts.

Nesogenes rotensis is found on exposed, raised limestone flats in non-forested strand habitat. *Osmoxylon mariannense* is found in limestone forests on the Sabana, a raised plateau unique in the Mariana archipelago, that are often shrouded in clouds and mist.

Human activities are believed to be the primary factors leading to the small population sizes and limited distribution of *Nesogenes rotensis* and *Osmoxylon mariannense*, and include: agriculture, ranching, non-native plant and animal introductions, resort and beach park development in the coastal habitat of *N. rotensis*, and road construction and maintenance in the Sabana habitat of *O. mariannense.* In the last decade, several major typhoons have made landfall on Rota, severely impacting individuals of both species. Another factor that may affect the recovery of these two species is their vulnerability to extinction from reduced reproductive vigor due to their small population sizes.

The objective of this recovery plan is to restore and maintain multiple naturally reproducing populations of *Nesogenes rotensis* and *Osmoxylon mariannense* on the island of Rota. The draft recovery plan for these two plants focuses on the following actions: (1) Coordinating and monitoring recovery efforts; (2) addressing factors affecting viability of the wild populations; (3) monitoring *N. rotensis* and *O. mariannense* populations, establishing new populations, and augmenting existing populations; and (4) providing educational informational opportunities to build public support for conservation.

Public Comments Solicited

We solicit written comments on the draft recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered in the finalization of this plan.

Authority

The authority for this action is section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533 (f).

Dated: February 17, 2006.

David J. Wesley,

Acting Regional Director, Region 1, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. E6–6143 Filed 4–24–06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

U.S. Geological Survey

National Earthquake Prediction Evaluation Council

AGENCY: U.S. Geological Survey, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Public Law 96–472, the National Earthquake Prediction Evaluation Council (NEPEC) will hold a meeting. The meeting location is the U.S. Geological Survey, Building 3, Conference Room C, 345 Middlefield Rd., Menlo Park, CA 94025. The Committee is comprised of members from academia and the Federal government. The Committee shall advise the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) on proposed earthquake predictions, on the completeness and scientific validity of the available data related to earthquake predictions, and on related matters as assigned by the Director.

The Committee, which was recently reconstituted following a period of dormancy, will review past findings rendered by the NEPEC and by the California Earthquake Prediction Evaluation Council. They will also discuss recent trends in earthquake research that bear on the predictability of earthquake occurrence.