

and their habitats, and (2) minor or negligible effects on other environmental values or resources.

The Service will evaluate the HCP and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). If it is determined that those requirements are met, the ITP will be issued for the incidental take of the Florida scrub-jay. The Service will also evaluate whether issuance of the section 10(a)(1)(B) ITP complies with section 7 of the Act by conducting an intra-Service section 7 consultation. The results of this consultation, in combination with the above findings, will be used in the final analysis to determine whether or not to issue the ITP.

**Authority:** This notice is provided pursuant to section 10 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: April 24, 2007.

**Paul Souza,**

Field Supervisor, South Florida Ecological Services Field Office.

[FR Doc. E7-8159 Filed 4-27-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### **Draft Safe Harbor Agreement and Application for an Enhancement of Survival Permit for the Attwater's Prairie Chicken, Northern Aplomado Falcon, Whooping Crane, and Black Lace Cactus for Activities on Private Lands in All or Portions of Aransas, Austin, Colorado, Galveston, Goliad, Refugio, and Victoria Counties, TX (Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative)**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** The Coastal Prairie Coalition, Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) (Applicant) has applied to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an enhancement of survival permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended. The requested permit, which is for a period of 99 years, includes a draft Safe Harbor Agreement (Agreement) for the endangered Attwater's prairie chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido attwateri*), the endangered Northern aplomado falcon (*Falco femoralis septentrionalis*), the endangered Whooping crane (*Grus Americana*), and the endangered black

lace cactus (*Echinocereus reichenbachii* var. *albertii*) in all or portions of Aransas, Austin, Colorado, Galveston, Goliad, Refugio, and Victoria counties, Texas. We invite public comment.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, written comments must be received on or before May 30, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons wishing to review the application may obtain a copy by writing to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Room 4102, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103. Persons wishing to review the draft Agreement or other related documents may obtain a copy by written or telephone request to the Field Supervisor, Corpus Christi Ecological Services Field Office, c/o Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Drive, Unit 5837, Corpus Christi, Texas 78412-5837, (361) 994-9005. The documents will also be available for public inspection, by appointment only, during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at the Service's Corpus Christi office. Comments concerning the draft Agreement or other related documents should be submitted in writing to the Field Supervisor at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Corpus Christi Ecological Services Field Office, c/o Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Drive, Unit 5837, Corpus Christi, Texas 78412-5837. Please refer to permit number TE-151746-0 when submitting comments. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become a part of the official administrative record and may be made available to the public.

#### **Public Availability of Comments**

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary Orms at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Corpus Christi Ecological Services Field Office, c/o Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Drive, Unit 5837, Corpus Christi, Texas 78412-5837 (361-994-9005; Fax 361-994-8262, or [Mary\\_Orms@fws.gov](mailto:Mary_Orms@fws.gov))

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Applicant has applied to the Service for a section 10(a)(1)(A) enhancement of survival permit for the endangered

Attwater's prairie chicken, the endangered Northern aplomado falcon, the endangered Whooping crane, and the endangered black lace cactus in all or portions of Aransas, Austin, Colorado, Galveston, Goliad, Refugio, and Victoria counties, Texas for a period of 99 years.

#### **Background**

The Applicant plans to implement conservation measures designed to promote the recovery of covered species on enrolled private lands located in the counties listed above. The conservation measures will improve and maintain healthy productive grasslands, reduce brush canopy, modify plant composition, promote growth of or enhance the detection and/or palatability of desired foods, increase prey base, facilitate the accumulation of fine fuels for prescription burning, provide additional habitat, provide upland freshwater supplies, and aid in dispersal of covered species among various protected habitats, providing a measure of insurance against losses due to demographic or genetic factors and catastrophic events. The Agreement is expected to provide a net conservation benefit for the Attwater's prairie chicken, Northern aplomado falcon, Whooping crane, and black lace cactus. Due to the programmatic nature of this Agreement, baseline conditions will be determined at the time of enrollment. Baseline conditions for most properties enrolled under the Agreement are anticipated to be zero. Where participating properties are determined to have an environmental baseline greater than zero, these areas shall be described in the Certificate of Inclusion (CI) and Prairie Management Agreement, with detailed descriptions and/or maps showing the locations of existing habitat or populations attached to the CI and Prairie Management Agreement.

The Agreement will provide certainty to the Applicant relative to future property-use restrictions in the event that any of the covered species should be taken on their land as a result of implementation of the proposed conservation measures.

Under a Safe Harbor Agreement, participating property owners voluntarily undertake management activities on their property to enhance, restore, or maintain habitat benefiting species listed under the Act. Safe Harbor Agreements encourage private and other non-Federal property owners to implement conservation efforts for listed species by assuring property owners they will not be subject to increased property use restrictions if

their efforts attract listed species to their property or increase the numbers or distribution of listed species already on their property.

Section 9 of the Act prohibits take of threatened or endangered species. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take threatened and endangered wildlife species incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities.

**Christopher T. Jones,**

*Acting Regional Director, Southwest Region, Albuquerque, New Mexico.*

[FR Doc. E7-8164 Filed 4-27-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Availability of Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment for Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge in St. Tammany Parish, LA

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** We, the Fish and Wildlife Service, announce that a Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment (Draft CCP/EA) for Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge is available for review and comment. The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, requires the Service to develop a CCP for each national wildlife refuge. This Draft CCP, when final, will describe how we intend to manage Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge over the next 15 years.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, we must receive your comments no later than May 30, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Send your comments or requests for more information to: Charlotte Parker, Natural Resource Planner, 61389 Highway 434, Lacombe, LA 70445; Telephone: 985/882-2029. The Draft CCP/EA may be accessed and downloaded from the Service's Internet Web site: <http://southeast.fws.gov/planning/> under "Draft Documents."

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1994 and is presently comprised of approximately 18,600 acres of coastal marsh and pine forested wetlands. The purposes of the refuge are to: Provide habitat for a natural diversity of wildlife associated with the marsh of

the refuge; provide wintering habitat for migratory waterfowl; provide nesting habitat for wood ducks; provide habitat for non-game migratory birds; and provide opportunities for public outdoor recreation, such as hunting, fishing, hiking, bird watching, and environmental education and interpretation, whenever they are compatible with the purposes of the refuge.

Significant issues addressed in the Draft CCP/EA include: Managing threatened and endangered species, species of concern, targeted species, and other species of Federal responsibility; conserving habitats native to the Lake Pontchartrain Basin; improving refuge visitor programs; increasing public outreach; providing formal environmental education programs; protecting archaeological and historical sites on the refuge; and, purchasing the remaining land inholdings within the established acquisition boundary of the refuge.

Three management alternatives are considered in the Draft CCP/EA. Alternative A continues current management, with no new actions to improve or enhance existing programs. Alternative B, the proposed alternative, emphasizes management of natural resources based on maintaining and improving wetland habitats, monitoring targeted flora and fauna representative of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, and providing quality public use programs and wildlife-dependent recreational activities. Alternative C focuses on expanding public use activities to the fullest extent possible while conducting only mandated resource protection.

We will conduct the environmental review of this project in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*); NEPA Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508); other appropriate Federal laws and regulations; and our policies and procedures for compliance with those regulations. All comments received become part of the official public record. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act NEPA (40 CFR 1506(f)), and Departmental and Service policies and procedures.

**Authority:** This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105-57.

Dated: March 13, 2007.

**Cynthia K. Dohner,**

*Acting Regional Director.*

[FR Doc. E7-8162 Filed 4-27-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### Indian Gaming

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Amendment to Approved Tribal-State Compact.

**SUMMARY:** This notice publishes the approval of the extension of agreement between the Northern Cheyenne Tribe and the State of Montana concerning Class III gaming, with the incorporated amendments.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** April 30, 2007.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** George T. Skibine, Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary—Policy and Economic Development, Washington, DC 20240, (202) 219-4066.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to Section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA), Public Law 100-497, 25 U.S.C. 2710, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the **Federal Register** notice of the approved Tribal-State compacts for the purpose of engaging in Class III gaming activities on Indian lands.

This amendment extends the term of the compact for 10 years, increases the number of gaming machines, the maximum jackpot on gaming machines and the prize limit on Class III poker, for the Northern Cheyenne Tribe.

Dated: April 19, 2007.

**Carl J. Artman,**

*Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

[FR Doc. E7-8134 Filed 4-27-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-02-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

#### Indian Gaming

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of amendment to Approved Tribal-State Compact.

**SUMMARY:** This notice publishes the Approval of the Tribal-State Compact for Class III Gaming between the Spokane Tribe and the State of Washington.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** April 30, 2007.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** George T. Skibine, Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary—Policy and Economic Development, Washington, DC 20240, (202) 219-4066.