

Preliminary Issues, Concerns, and Opportunities

A brief summary of the preliminary issues, concerns, and opportunities that have been identified follows. The issues fall into five general categories: (1) Natural resources management on the Ritidian Unit; (2) management of visitor services on the Ritidian Unit; (3) management of cultural resources on the Ritidian Unit; (4) facilities, operations, and maintenance on the Ritidian Unit; and (5) natural resources management priorities on the Air Force and Navy Units. Additional issues may be identified during public scoping.

The CCP will focus on management at the Ritidian Unit. During the CCP planning process, the Service will analyze methods for protecting the unique and important natural and cultural resources of the terrestrial and marine portions of the Ritidian Unit in the long term, while continuing to provide quality opportunities for wildlife-dependent public uses.

The Ritidian Unit includes important cultural and historic resources that reflect human occupation and use of the area during pre-western contact periods, the early post-contact period, and on through to the modern era. Service archaeologists, working in coordination with the Guam Historic Preservation Office, have developed a draft Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP) for the Ritidian Unit that will be distributed for public review with the CCP. Ensuring adequate protection and management of unique cultural resources at Ritidian, and their study and interpretation, are topics that will be covered in the final CRMP.

Public Meeting and Open House

The Refuge will hold a public meeting that will include a brief presentation and information and handouts about the Refuge and CCP planning process. The meeting will be held on Saturday, July 14, 2007, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Guam National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters' Nature Center located on the Ritidian Unit, at the end of Route 3A, in northern Guam. An informal open house will continue in the Nature Center from July 15 through July 22, 2007. A specific area will be set up for the public to obtain information on the CCP planning process and provide written comments. The Nature Center is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily (except Federal holidays). Additional opportunities for public input will be announced throughout the CCP planning process.

Dated: June 29, 2007.

David J. Wesley,

Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Receipt of Applications for Permit

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of applications for permit.

SUMMARY: The public is invited to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species and/or marine mammals.

DATES: Written data, comments or requests must be received by August 6, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203; fax 703/358-2281.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358-2104.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Endangered Species

The public is invited to comment on the following applications for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to Section 10(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of these complete applications should be submitted to the Director (**ADDRESSES** above).

Applicant: University of Texas, Department of Anthropology, Austin, TX, PRT-152122.

The applicant requests a permit to import two male and four female captive-born gray mouse lemurs (*Microcebus murinus*) from the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Brunoy, France, for the purpose of scientific research.

Applicant: Los Angeles Zoo, Los Angeles, CA, PRT-152102.

The applicant requests a permit to import one female captive-born mandrill (*Mandrillus sphinx*) from the Granby Zoo, Quebec, Canada for the purpose of enhancement of the species through captive breeding.

Applicant: American Museum of Natural History, Sackler Institute for Comparative Genomics, New York, NY, PRT-156381.

The applicant requests a permit to import biological samples from dwarf crocodile (*Osteolaemus tetraspis osborni*), Nile crocodile (*Crocodylus niloticus*), and African slender-snout crocodile (*Crocodylus cataphractus*) from the Republics of Gabon and Congo for the purpose of enhancement of the species through scientific research. This notification covers activities conducted by the applicant for a five-year period.

Marine Mammals

The public is invited to comment on the following applications for a permit to conduct certain activities with marine mammals. The applications were submitted to satisfy requirements of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing marine mammals (50 CFR part 18). Written data, comments, or requests for copies of the complete applications or requests for a public hearing on these applications should be submitted to the Director (**ADDRESSES** above). Anyone requesting a hearing should give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Director.

Applicant: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management, Anchorage, AK, PRT-046081.

The applicant requests renewal and amendment of a permit to take polar bears (*Ursus maritimus*) in Alaska for the purpose of scientific research. The take activities include capture and release; tag, mark and radio collar; and collection of biometrics and biological samples. This notification covers activities to be conducted by the applicant over a five-year period.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, the Division of Management Authority is forwarding copies of the above applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and the Committee of Scientific Advisors for their review.

Applicant: Jim B. Dismukes, Fair Oaks, CA, PRT-155535.

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport hunted from the Northern Beaufort

Sea polar bear population in Canada for personal, noncommercial use.

Applicant: Raymond T. Cuppy,
Souderton, PA, PRT-156394.

The applicant requests a permit to import a polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) sport hunted from the Lancaster Sound polar bear population in Canada for personal, noncommercial use.

Dated: June 8, 2007.

Lisa J. Lierheimer,

*Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits,
Division of Management Authority.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Proposed Low Effect Habitat Conservation Plan for the Jurupa Avenue Road Widening Project, City of Fontana, County of San Bernardino, CA

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The City of Fontana (applicant) has applied to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for a 3-year incidental take permit for one covered species pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The application addresses the potential for "take" of the endangered Delhi Sands flower-loving fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*) associated with the proposed widening of Jurupa Avenue between Sierra and Tamarind avenues in the City of Fontana, San Bernardino County, California. A conservation program to mitigate for the project activities would be implemented as described in the proposed Jurupa Avenue Widening Project Low Effect Habitat Conservation Plan (proposed HCP), which would be implemented by the applicant.

We are requesting comments on the permit application and on the preliminary determination that the proposed HCP qualifies as a "Low-effect" Habitat Conservation Plan, eligible for a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended. The basis for this determination is discussed in the Environmental Action Statement (EAS) and the associated Low Effect Screening Form, which are also available for public review.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before August 6, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to the Field Supervisor, Fish and Wildlife Service, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, 6010 Hidden Valley Road, Carlsbad, CA 92011. Written comments may be sent by facsimile to (760) 918-0638.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Karen Goebel, Assistant Field Supervisor, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office (see **ADDRESSES**); telephone: (760) 431-9440.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Availability of Documents

Individuals wishing copies of the proposed HCP and EAS should immediately contact the Service by telephone at (760) 431-9440 or by letter to the Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office. Copies of the proposed HCP and EAS also are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office [see **ADDRESSES**].

Background

Section 9 of the Act and its implementing Federal regulations prohibit the take of animal species listed as endangered or threatened. Take is defined under the Act as harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect listed animal species, or attempt to engage in such conduct (16 U.S.C. 1538). However, under section 10(a) of the Act, the Service may issue permits to authorize incidental take of listed species. "Incidental take" is defined by the Act as take that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing incidental take permits for threatened and endangered species, respectively, are found in the Code of Federal Regulations at 50 CFR 17.22 and 50 CFR 17.32.

The applicant is seeking a permit for take of the Delhi Sands flower-loving fly during the life of the permit. This species is referred to as the "DSF" in the proposed HCP.

The applicant proposes to widen Jurupa Avenue between Sierra and Tamarind avenues in the City of Fontana, San Bernardino County, California. The proposed project would impact 4.7 acres of land, of which less than 1 acre is likely occupied by the DSF. We anticipate that all DSF within the project site would be lost during project construction. The project site does not contain any other rare, threatened or endangered species or habitat. No critical habitat for any listed species occurs on the project site.

The applicant proposes to mitigate the effects to the DSF associated with the

covered activities by fully implementing the HCP. The purpose of the proposed HCP's conservation program is to promote the biological conservation of the DSF. The applicant proposes to mitigate impacts to the DSF through purchase of 1 acre of credit within the Colton Dunes Conservation Bank in the City of Colton, San Bernardino County, California.

The Proposed Action consists of the issuance of an incidental take permit and implementation of the proposed HCP, which includes measures to mitigate impacts of the project on the DSF. One alternative to the taking of the listed species under the Proposed Action is considered in the proposed HCP. Under the No Action Alternative, no permit would be issued, and no construction or conservation would occur.

The Service has made a preliminary determination that approval of the proposed HCP qualifies as a categorical exclusion under NEPA, as provided by the Department of the Interior Manual (516 DM 2 Appendix 1 and 516 DM 6 Appendix 1) and as a "low-effect" plan as defined by the Habitat Conservation Planning Handbook (November 1996). Determination of Low-effect Habitat Conservation Plans is based on the following three criteria: (1) Implementation of the proposed HCP would result in minor or negligible effects on federally listed, proposed, and candidate species and their habitats; (2) Implementation of the proposed HCP would result in minor or negligible effects on other environmental values or resources; and (3) Impacts of the proposed HCP, considered together with the impacts of other past, present and reasonably foreseeable similarly situated projects would not result, over time, in cumulative effects to environmental values or resources which would be considered significant.

Based upon this preliminary determination, we do not intend to prepare further NEPA documentation. We will consider public comments in making the final determination on whether to prepare such additional documentation.

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.