

approximately 454 acres of islands, rocks, and reefs. Habitats include remnant prairies, cliff faces, shorelines, and old growth forest. San Juan Islands Refuge provides important breeding, resting, and foraging habitat for sensitive marine bird and mammal species. The islands of this refuge are part of the San Juan Islands Wilderness, except for Smith, Minor, and Turn Island, and a 5-acre parcel on Matia Island. The provisions of the Wilderness Act apply to all refuge lands that are designated wilderness. Additional information concerning San Juan Islands Refuge is available at: [http://www.fws.gov/pacific/refuges/field/wa\\_sanjuanis.htm](http://www.fws.gov/pacific/refuges/field/wa_sanjuanis.htm).

### Preliminary Issues, Concerns, and Opportunities

The following broad categories of preliminary issues have been identified by the Service for consideration in the planning process: Threats to Refuge resources; Refuge buffers; habitat restoration; wilderness management on San Juan Islands Refuge; research opportunities; visitor services; and refuge administration. Additional issues may be identified during public scoping. The CCP will focus on ways of minimizing threats to the Refuges' resources and visitor services programs will be evaluated based on current Service policies. A revised wilderness stewardship plan for the San Juan Islands Wilderness will be included in the CCP as well.

### Public Availability of Comments

All comments received from individuals become part of the official public record. Requests for such comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, NEPA, and Service and Department of the Interior policies and procedures.

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 we will be able to do so.

Dated: July 17, 2007.

**David J. Wesley,**

Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

[FR Doc. E7-15882 Filed 8-13-07; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Proposed Safe Harbor Agreement for the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle and the Giant Garter Snake for Landowners Restoring, Enhancing or Managing Native Riparian and Wetland Habitats in Yolo County, CA

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

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

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that the National Audubon Society, Inc., doing business in California as Audubon California (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 of 1973, as amended (Act). The permit application includes a proposed Safe Harbor Agreement (Agreement) between the Applicant and the Service for the threatened valley elderberry longhorn beetle (VELB) (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*) and/or the giant garter snake (GGS) (*Thamnopsis gigas*). The Agreement and permit application are available for public comment.

**DATES:** Written comments should be received on or before September 13, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Shannon Holbrook, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, 2800 Cottage Way, W-2605, Sacramento, California 95825. Written comments may be sent by facsimile to (916) 414-6712.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Shannon Holbrook, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office (see **ADDRESSES**); telephone: (916) 414-6600.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Availability of Documents

You may obtain copies of the documents for review by contacting the individual named above. You may also make an appointment to view the documents at the above address during normal business hours.

##### 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.

#### Background

Under a Safe Harbor Agreement, participating landowners voluntarily undertake management activities on their property to enhance, restore, or maintain habitat benefiting species listed under the Act. Safe Harbor Agreements, and the subsequent enhancement of survival permits that are issued pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), encourage private and other non-Federal property owners to implement conservation efforts for listed species by assuring property owners that they will not be subjected to increased land use restrictions as a result of efforts to attract or increase the numbers or distribution of a listed species on their property. Application requirements and issuance criteria for enhancement of survival permits through Safe Harbor Agreements are found in 50 CFR 17.22(c).

We have worked with the Applicant to develop this proposed Programmatic Agreement for the conservation of the VELB and the GGS in Yolo County, California. The properties subject to this Agreement consist of approximately 200,000 acres of non-Federal properties within the boundaries of Yolo County, on which habitat for the VELB and/or GGS will be restored, enhanced, and managed pursuant to a written agreement between Audubon California and a property owner.

This Agreement provides for the creation of a Program in which private landowners (Program Participants) enter into written cooperative agreements with the Applicant pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, to restore, enhance, and maintain riparian and wetland habitat in ways beneficial to the VELB and/or GGS. Such cooperative agreements will be for a term of at least 10 years. The proposed duration of the Agreement is 30 years, and the proposed term of the enhancement of survival permit is 30 years. The Agreement fully describes the proposed management activities to be undertaken by Program Participants and the conservation benefits expected to be gained for the VELB and GGS.

Upon approval of this Agreement, and consistent with the Service's Safe Harbor Policy published in the **Federal Register** on June 17, 1999 (64 FR 32717), the Service would issue a permit to Audubon California authorizing take of VELB and GGS by Program Participants incidental to the implementation of the

management activities specified in the cooperative agreements, incidental to other lawful uses of the properties, including normal routine land management activities, and/or to return to pre-Agreement conditions.

To benefit the VELB and GGS, Program Participants will agree to undertake site-specific management activities, which will be specified in their written cooperative agreements. Management activities that could be included in the Cooperative Agreements will provide for the restoration, enhancement and management of native riparian and/or wetland habitats in Yolo County. The object of such activities is to enhance populations of VELB and/or GGS by creating healthy native riparian plant and/or wetland communities. Take of VELB and GGS incidental to the aforementioned activities is unlikely; however, it is possible that in the course of such activities or other lawful activities on the enrolled property, a Program Participant could incidentally take a VELB or GGS thereby necessitating take authority under the permit.

Pre-Agreement conditions (baseline), consisting of a description and survey to delineate the locations of all elderberry bushes having 1 or more stems that are 1 inch or greater in diameter at the base and to determine the quantity, quality, and location of suitable GGS habitat, shall be determined for each enrolled property as provided in the Agreement. In order to receive the above assurances regarding incidental take of VELB and/or GGS, a Program Participant must maintain baseline on the enrolled property. The Agreement and requested enhancement of survival permit will allow each Program Participant to return to baseline conditions after the end of the term of the 10-year cooperative agreement and prior to the expiration of the 30-year permit, if so desired by the Applicants.

Consistent with the Service's Safe Harbor Policy (64 FR 32717), the proposed Agreement and requested permit also extend certain assurances to those lands that are immediately adjacent to lands on which restoration activities occur. To receive such assurances, a neighboring landowner must enter into a written agreement with the Service that specifies the baseline conditions on the property. This written agreement remains in effect until the expiration of the 30-year Agreement between the Applicant and the Service and requires the neighboring landowner to maintain the baseline conditions established at the start of the agreement.

### Public Review and Comments

The Service has made a preliminary determination that the proposed Agreement and permit application are eligible for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). We explain the basis for this determination in an Environmental Action Statement, which is also available for public review.

Individuals wishing copies of the permit application, copies of our preliminary Environmental Action Statement, and/or copies of the full text of the Agreement, including a map of the proposed permit area, references, and legal descriptions of the proposed permit area, should contact the office and personnel listed in the ADDRESSES section above.

If you wish to comment on the permit application or the Agreement, you may submit your comments to the address listed in the ADDRESSES section of this document. Comments and materials received, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address in the ADDRESSES section above and will become part of the public record, pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the 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. Anonymous comments will not be considered. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, are available for public inspection in their entirety.

We will evaluate this permit application, associated documents, and comments submitted thereon to determine whether the permit application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the Act and NEPA regulations at 40 CFR 1506.6. If we determine that the requirements are met, we will sign the proposed Agreement and issue an enhancement of survival permit under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act to the Applicants for take of the VELB and/or GGS incidental to otherwise lawful activities in accordance with the terms of the Agreement. We will not make our final decision until after the end of the 30-

day comment period and will fully consider all comments received during the comment period.

The Service provides this notice pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act and pursuant to implementing regulations for NEPA (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: August 8, 2007.

**Susan K. Moore,**

*Field Supervisor, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, Sacramento, California.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[OR-050-1020-MJ; HAG07-0169]

### Notice of Public Meetings—John Day/Snake Resource Advisory Council (RAC)

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Prineville District.

**ACTION:** Notice of Public Meetings—John Day/Snake Resource Advisory Council (RAC).

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the Department of the Interior, BLM John Day Snake RAC will meet as indicated below:

The John Day/Snake RAC is scheduled to meet on September 12, 2007, at the Geiser Grand Hotel at 1996 Main Street, Baker City, Oregon. The meeting time will be from approximately 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. A public comment period will begin at 1 p.m. and end at 1:15 p.m. (Pacific Daylight Time). The meeting will include such topics as the John Day Basin Resource Management Plan, Eastern Oregon off-highway vehicle and travel management, salmon recovery efforts for the Mid-Columbia and Northeast Oregon/Snake Rivers, the Blue Mountain Forest Plan Revision and other matters as may reasonably come before the council.

**Meeting Procedures:** The meeting is open to the public. The public may present written comments to the RAC. Depending on the number of persons wishing to provide oral comments and agenda topics to be covered, the time to do so may be limited. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance such as sign language interpretation, tour transportation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the BLM representative indicated below. For a copy of the information to be distributed to the RAC members, please submit a written