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Dated August 20, 2009.

Edwin L. Roberson,

Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning.

[FR Doc. E9-20675 Filed 8-26-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLORW00000 L12200000.AL0000; GP9-0335]

Notice of Public Meeting, Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council Meeting

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council will meet as indicated below.

DATES: September 24–25, 2009.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting will be open to the public. It will begin at 1 p.m. and end at 4 p.m. on September 24, and begin at 8 p.m. and end at 12 p.m. on September 25. The meeting will be held at The Nature Conservancy Whisper Lake facility, which is approximately 25 miles southwest of Coulee City, WA. Topics of discussion will include special status species, grazing management, and resource management planning. If members of the public are interested in participating, please call the Spokane District Office at (509) 536-1200 for details.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

BLM Spokane District, 1103 N. Fancher Rd., Spokane Valley, WA 99212, or call (509) 536-1200.

Dated: August 21, 2009.

Sally Sovey,

Acting District Manager.

[FR Doc. E9-20661 Filed 8-26-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R8-ES-2009-N177; 81430-1112-0000-F2]

Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan for the Federally Threatened Coastal California Gnatcatcher in Connection With the Jamacha Road 36-Inch Pipeline Construction Project (CIP P2009) in San Diego County, CA

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), have received an application from the Otay Water District (OWD) for a 5-year incidental take permit for one covered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended. The application addresses the potential for "take" of the federally threatened coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica californica*) associated with the construction of a 36-inch pipeline (OWD CIP P2009) along Jamacha Road in the City of El Cajon and unincorporated community of Rancho San Diego in the County of San Diego, California. A habitat conservation program (HCP) to mitigate for the project activities would be implemented by OWD. We are requesting comments on the HCP and our preliminary determination that the proposed plan 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 and Low Effect Screening Form (Screening Form), which is also available for public review.

DATES: To ensure consideration, we must receive your written comments by *September 28, 2009*.

ADDRESSES: Send comments by U.S. mail to Jim Bartel, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, 6010 Hidden Valley Road, Suite 101, Carlsbad, CA 92011, or by fax to (760) 431-5901.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Karen Goebel, Assistant Field Supervisor, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office (see **ADDRESSES**); telephone (760) 431-9440, extension 296.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We have received an application from OWD for an incidental take permit for the federally threatened coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica*

californica) (gnatcatcher). A conservation program to mitigate for the project activities would be implemented by OWD as described in the *Habitat Conservation Plan for the Federally Threatened Coastal California Gnatcatcher in Connection with the Jamacha Road 36-inch Pipeline Construction Project (CIP P2009) in San Diego County, California* (HCP), July, 2009. This species is referred to as the "gnatcatcher" in the proposed HCP.

We are requesting comments on the HCP and our preliminary determination that the proposed plan 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 Screening Form.

Availability of Documents

Individuals wishing copies of the proposed HCP and Screening Form, which includes the Environmental Action Statement, should immediately contact us by telephone at (760) 431-9440 or by letter to the Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office (see **ADDRESSES**). Copies of the proposed HCP and Screening Form also are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the same office.

Background

Section 9 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and its implementing Federal regulations prohibit the take of animal species listed as endangered or threatened. Take is defined under the Act as follows: To harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect listed animal species, or to attempt to engage in such conduct (16 U.S.C. 1538). However, under section 10(a) of the Act, we 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 (October 1, 2006, 50 CFR 17.22) and (October 1, 2001, 50 CFR 17.32).

OWD is seeking a permit for take of the gnatcatcher. The current known range of the gnatcatcher extends from the coastal slopes in southern California, from southern Ventura southward through Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties into Baja California, Mexico, to approximately 30 degrees North latitude near El Rosario.