

would include developing a bicycle and hiking trail, opening Crims and Price Islands to waterfowl hunting, closing a small section of Steamboat Slough to waterfowl hunting to improve public safety, installing new interpretive exhibit panels, and developing curriculum for the refuge study sites.

#### Public Availability of Documents

We encourage you to stay involved in the CCP planning process by reviewing and commenting on the proposals we have developed in the CCP/DEIS.

Copies of the CCP/DEIS on CD-ROM are available by request from Charlie Stenvall, Project Leader, Willapa National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 3888 SR 101, Ilwaco, WA 98624; phone (360) 484-3482. The Draft CCP/EIS will also be available for viewing and downloading on the Internet at <http://www.fws.gov/lc> and <http://www.fws.gov/jbh>. Printed copies of the CCP/DEIS may be reviewed at the Julia Butler Hansen Refuge for the Columbian White-tailed Deer, 46 Steamboat Slough Road, Cathlamet, WA 98612; Willapa National Wildlife Refuge Complex (address above); and at the following libraries.

- Blanch Bradley Library, 100 Main Street, Cathlamet, WA 98612.
- Astoria Public Library, 450 10th Street, Astoria, OR 97103.
- Clatskanie Library District, 11 Lillich Street, Clatskanie, OR 97016.
- Ilwaco Timberline Regional Library, 158 1st Avenue, Ilwaco, WA 98624.
- Longview Public Library, 1600 Louisiana Street, Longview, WA 98632.

#### Next Steps

After this comment period ends, we will analyze the comments and address them in the form of a final CCP/EIS.

#### 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.

Dated: January 15, 2010.

David J. Wesley,

Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

[FR Doc. 2010-1292 Filed 2-9-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R8-ES-2009-N237; 80221-1113-0000-C2]

#### Draft Recovery Plan for Tidal Marsh Ecosystems of Northern and Central California

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

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability for review and comment.

**SUMMARY:** We, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of a draft recovery plan for Tidal Marsh Ecosystems of Northern and Central California for public review and comment. This draft recovery plan is an expansion and revision of our 1984 *California Clapper Rail and Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse Recovery Plan*. The plan also addresses several federally endangered plant species: *Cirsium hydrophilum* var. *hydrophilum* (Suisun thistle), *Cordylanthus mollis* ssp. *mollis* (soft bird's-beak), *Suaeda californica* (California sea-blite), and the Morro Bay portion of *Cordylanthus maritimus* ssp. *maritimus* (salt marsh bird's-beak).

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by June 10, 2010.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the draft recovery plan are available by request from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Rm. W-2605, Sacramento, CA 95825 (telephone: 916-414-6600). An electronic copy of the draft recovery plan is also available at <http://endangered.fws.gov/recovery/index.html#plans>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Josh Hull, Recovery Branch Chief, at the above address or telephone number.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Recovery of endangered or threatened animals and plants is a primary goal of the Endangered Species Act (Act) (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and our endangered species program. Recovery means improvement of the status of listed species to the point at which listing is no longer required under the criteria set out in section 4(a)(1) of the Act. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, establish criteria for downlisting or delisting listed species, and estimate time and cost for implementing the measures needed for recovery. *The Draft Recovery Plan for Tidal Marsh Ecosystems of*

*Northern and Central California* features five endangered species. The biology of these species is at the core of the draft recovery plan, but the goal of this recovery planning effort is the comprehensive restoration and management of tidal marsh ecosystems.

This draft recovery plan is an expansion and revision of *The California Clapper Rail and Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse Recovery Plan* (Service 1984). Since that time a great deal of effort has been dedicated to recovery and conservation activities, and additional information has been obtained through research and observation that allows us to better focus our recovery strategy. The historic distribution of the California clapper rail encompasses major tidal marshes between Humboldt Bay and, arguably, Morro Bay. This distribution defines the approximate geographic scope of this draft recovery plan.

The plan also covers three federally endangered plant species and the northernmost population of an additional federally endangered plant species. Two of the species, *Cirsium hydrophilum* var. *hydrophilum* (Suisun thistle) and *Cordylanthus mollis* ssp. *mollis* (soft bird's-beak), are restricted to the northern reaches of the San Francisco Bay Estuary. The other endangered tidal marsh plant, *Suaeda californica* (California sea-blite), historically occurred in both San Francisco Bay and Morro Bay; however, except for three reintroductions to San Francisco Bay, it is now restricted to Morro Bay. Another federally listed plant, *Cordylanthus maritimus* ssp. *maritimus* (salt marsh bird's-beak), has its northern range limit in Morro Bay. Morro Bay was omitted from the *Salt Marsh Bird's Beak Recovery Plan* (Service 1985a) because the taxonomic interpretation at the time classified this population in another subspecies that is not federally listed. The current taxonomy includes the Morro Bay population as *Cordylanthus maritimus* ssp. *maritimus*. It is included in this draft recovery plan due to its colocation with *Suaeda californica* in Morro Bay. Recovery strategies and actions are provided for the Morro Bay population of *Cordylanthus maritimus* ssp. *maritimus*. However, because we do not consider the entire range of the species in this document, recovery criteria have not been included. This draft recovery plan also addresses 11 species of concern: The salt marsh wandering shrew (*Sorex vagrans halicoetes*), Suisun shrew (*Sorex ornatus sinuosus*), San Pablo vole (*Microtus californicus sanpabloensis*), California black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis coturniculus*),

three song sparrow subspecies of the San Francisco Bay Estuary (*Melospiza melodia* spp.), saltmarsh common yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas sinuosa*), old man tiger beetle (*Cicindela senilis senilis*), *Lathyrus jepsonii* ssp. *jepsonii* (delta tule pea), and *Spartina foliosa* (Pacific cordgrass).

Species included in this draft recovery plan occur in a variety of tidal marsh habitats, where they are limited by the requirements of moisture, salinity, topography, soil types, and climatic conditions. Adjacent uplands and ecotone areas are also crucial habitats for many of these species. Primary threats to all the listed species include:

- (1) Historical and current habitat loss and fragmentation due to urban development, agriculture, and diking related to duck hunting;
- (2) Altered hydrology and salinity;
- (3) Nonnative invasive species;
- (4) Inadequate regulatory mechanisms;
- (5) Disturbance;
- (6) Contamination;
- (7) Sea-level rise due to climate change; and
- (8) Risk of extinction due to vulnerability of small populations in the face of random naturally occurring events.

We expect that the following species recovery objectives will be met:

- (1) Secure self-sustaining wild populations of each covered species throughout their full ecological, geographical, and genetic ranges;
- (2) Ameliorate or eliminate the threats, to the extent possible, that caused the species to be listed or of concern and any future threats; and
- (3) Restore and conserve a healthy ecosystem function supportive of tidal marsh species.

These objectives will be accomplished through implementation of a variety of recovery measures, including habitat acquisition, protection, management and restoration; species status surveys/monitoring; research; and stakeholder coordination, public participation, and outreach.

#### Request for Public Comments

We request written comments on the draft recovery plan. All comments received by the date specified in **DATES** will be considered prior to approval of this plan. If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments and materials concerning this recovery plan by one of these methods:

1. You may submit written comments and information by mail or facsimile or in person to the Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office at the above address (see **ADDRESSES**).

2. You may send comments by electronic mail (e-mail) to: [R8TM\\_RP\\_CA@fws.gov](mailto:R8TM_RP_CA@fws.gov). If you submit comments by e-mail, please submit them as an ASCII file and avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include your name and return address in your e-mail message.

Comments and materials received, as well as supporting documentation used in preparation of the recovery plan, will be available for inspection, during normal business hours at the above Sacramento address (see **ADDRESSES**).

We specifically seek comments on the following:

- (1) Biological, commercial trade, or other relevant data concerning any threat (or lack thereof) to the species;
- (2) Feedback on the durability of the science regarding climate change and its treatment presented in the draft recovery plan and comments on how best to ameliorate threats to the species in that regard;
- (3) Additional information concerning the range, distribution, and population size of these species, including the location of any additional populations;
- (4) Current or planned activities in the subject area and their possible impacts on these species; and
- (5) The suitability and feasibility of the recovery criteria, strategies, or actions described in the Draft Plan.

#### 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.

#### Authority

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

#### Alexandra Pitts,

Regional Director, Region 8, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2010-2279 Filed 2-9-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R2-ES-2009-N273; 20124-1113-0000-C2]

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Draft Yuma Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris yumanensis*) Recovery Plan, First Revision

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

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability for public review: draft revised recovery plan.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of the Draft Yuma Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris yumanensis*) Recovery Plan, First Revision under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The species currently inhabits the mainstem Colorado River in Arizona, California, and Nevada; the Virgin River in Arizona, Nevada, and Utah; the Gila River in Arizona; and the Salton Sea in California. The Service solicits review and comment from the public on this draft revised recovery plan. The Service will also accept any new information on the status of the Yuma clapper rail throughout its range to assist in finalizing the revised recovery plan.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, we must receive any comments no later than April 12, 2010.

**ADDRESSES:** Persons wishing to review the draft revised recovery plan can obtain a paper or electronic copy from the Arizona Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2321 W. Royal Palm Road, Suite 103, Phoenix, AZ 85021-4951; by phone at (602) 242-0210 extension 236; by e-mail at [ycrrecovery@fws.gov](mailto:ycrrecovery@fws.gov); or on our Web site at [www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/](http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/). Written comments and materials on the draft revised recovery plan may be mailed to "Field Supervisor" at the address above or e-mailed to [ycrrecovery@fws.gov](mailto:ycrrecovery@fws.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lesley Fitzpatrick (see **ADDRESSES**).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), 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