

To comply with the public consultation process, on December 5, 2011, we published a **Federal Register** notice (76 FR 75894) announcing that we would submit this ICR to OMB for approval. The notice provided the required 60-day comment period. In addition, § 250.199 provides the OMB control number for the information collection requirements imposed by the 30 CFR 250 regulations and forms. The regulation also informs the public that they may comment at any time on the collections of information and provides the address to which they should send comments. We have received no comments in response to these efforts.

Public Comment Procedures: Before including your address, phone number, email 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.

Acting BSEE Information Collection Clearance Officer: Cheryl Blundon (703) 787-1607.

Dated: February 22, 2012.

Douglas W. Morris,

Chief, Office of Offshore Regulatory Programs.

[FR Doc. 2012-5944 Filed 3-16-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R1-ES-2012-N026;
FXES1113010000F5-123-FF01E00000]

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications for permits to conduct activities with the purpose of enhancing the survival of endangered species. The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), prohibits certain activities with respect to endangered species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The Act also requires that we invite public comment before issuing such permits.

DATES: To ensure consideration, please send your written comments by April 18, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Endangered Species Program Manager, Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Regional Office, 911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-4181. Please refer to the permit number for the application when submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Colleen Henson, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address or by telephone (503-231-2071) or fax (503-231-6243).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) prohibits certain activities with respect to endangered and threatened species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. Along with our implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR part 17, the Act provides for certain permits, and requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits for endangered species.

A permit granted by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act authorizes the permittee to conduct activities (including take or interstate commerce) with respect to U.S. endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes or enhancement of propagation or survival. Our regulations implementing section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act for these permits are found at 50 CFR 17.22 for endangered wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.32 for threatened wildlife species, 50 CFR 17.62 for endangered plant species, and 50 CFR 17.72 for threatened plant species.

Applications Available for Review and Comment

We invite local, State, and Federal agencies, and the public to comment on the following applications. Please refer to the appropriate permit number for the application when submitting comments.

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review by request from the Endangered Species Program Manager at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

Permit Number: TE-64043A

Applicant: David Bainbridge, DVM, Verona, Illinois

The applicant requests an interstate commerce permit to purchase nene geese (*Branta sandvicensis*) in

conjunction with captive propagation for the purpose of enhancing their survival. This notification covers activities conducted by the applicant over the next 5 years.

Permit Number: TE-66384A

Applicant: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

The applicant requests a permit to take (collect eggs, net and tag juveniles and adults) the Kootenai River white sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*) in conjunction with spawning, recruitment, monitoring, and population studies in Boundary County, Idaho, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit Number: TE-012136

Applicant: Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Hillsboro, Oregon

The permittee requests a permit amendment to take (harass by electrofishing, capture, and release) the Modoc sucker (*Catostomus microps*) in conjunction with monitoring studies in Lake County, Oregon, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival. The permit currently covers take of Oregon chub (*Oregonichthys crameri*), Lost River sucker (*Deltistes luxatus*), and shortnose sucker (*Chasmistes brevirostris*), for which notices were published in the **Federal Register** on July 2, 1999 (64 FR 36032) and June 20, 2000 (65 FR 38297).

Permit Number: TE-66612A

Applicant: Wildwood Wildlife Park, Minocqua, Wisconsin

The applicant requests an interstate commerce permit to purchase nene geese (*Branta sandvicensis*) in conjunction with captive propagation for the purpose of enhancing their survival. This notification covers activities conducted by the applicant over the next 5 years.

Public Availability of Comments

All comments and materials we receive in response to this request will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

Before including your address, phone number, email 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

We provide this notice under section 10 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: March 9, 2012.

Richard Hannan,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2012-6533 Filed 3-16-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R1-R-2011-N180; 1265-0000-10137-S3]

Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, Pacific County, WA; Record of Decision for Final Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce the availability of the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge final comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and record of decision (ROD). We completed a thorough analysis of the environmental, social, and economic considerations and presented it in our Final CCP and environmental impact statement (EIS), which we released to the public on August 12, 2011. The ROD documents our decision to implement Alternative 2, as it is described in the Final CCP/EIS.

DATES: The Regional Director, Pacific Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, signed the ROD on September 29, 2011. We plan to begin implementation of the CCP immediately.

ADDRESSES: You may view or request a copy of the CCP/ROD by the following methods:

Agency Web Site: Download the document at: <http://www.fws.gov/willapa/CCP/>.

Email:

FW1PlanningComments@fws.gov.

Include "Willapa NWR CCP/ROD" in the subject line of the message.

Mail: Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, 3888 SR 101, Ilwaco, WA 98624.

In person viewing: Willapa National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 3888 SR 101, Ilwaco, WA 98624.

Local Libraries: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Charlie Stenvall, Project Leader, (360) 484-3482 (phone).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

With this notice, we finalize the CCP process for the Refuge. We started this process through a notice of intent in the **Federal Register** on April 9, 2008 (73 FR 19238). We announced the availability of our draft and final documents in the **Federal Register** as well. Our Draft CCP/EIS was released on January 21, 2011 (76 FR 3922), and our Final CCP/EIS was released on August 12, 2011 (76 FR 50247).

The Refuge was established in 1937 to protect migrating and wintering populations of brant, waterfowl, shorebirds, and other migratory birds, and for conservation purposes. It encompasses over 16,000 acres of tidelands, temperate rainforest, ocean beaches, sand dunes, rivers, and small streams. Remnants of old growth coastal cedar forest and habitats for spawning wild salmon, migrating shorebirds, and threatened and endangered species, such as the western snowy plover and marbled murrelet, are preserved on the Refuge.

We evaluated three alternatives for managing the Refuge's resources in the Final CCP/EIS, identified Alternative 2 as our preferred alternative, and completed a thorough analysis of environmental, social, and economic considerations. The ROD documents our selection of Alternative 2 for implementation. Alternative 2 is the foundation of our CCP. The CCP will guide our management and administration of the Refuge for the next 15 years. In accordance with National Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1506.6(b)), this notice announces the availability of our CCP/ROD.

Background

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee) (Refuge Administration Act), as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, requires us to develop a CCP for each national wildlife refuge. The purpose for developing a CCP is to provide refuge managers with a 15-year plan for achieving refuge purposes and contributing toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and our policies. We will review and update the CCP at least every 15 years in accordance with the Refuge Administration Act.

CCP Alternatives and Selected Alternative

We identified management issues in our Draft and Final CCP/EIS. To address these issues, we developed and evaluated three alternatives. Alternative 1 is our no-action alternative; under it, current Refuge management programs would continue. Under Alternative 2, our preferred alternative, current management would continue and a number of compatible improvements to our wildlife, habitat, biodiversity, and visitor services management activities would be implemented. Under Alternative 3, we would continue current Refuge management programs, and some improvements to wildlife, habitat, and visitor services management would occur, but to a lesser degree than under Alternative 2.

After considering public comments, we selected Alternative 2, as it is described in the Final CCP/EIS, for implementation. Alternative 2 will best achieve Refuge purposes, and contribute toward the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, consistent with the sound principles of fish and wildlife science and conservation, legal mandates, and Service policies. Current wildlife and habitat management will continue under Alternative 2, including maintaining freshwater wetlands on the Tarlatt Unit and implementing our forest management plan. The following improvements will be implemented over time.

- The Refuge's intensively managed pastures and impoundments will be restored to historic estuarine conditions, increasing open water, intertidal flats, and salt marsh habitats by 621 acres.
- Avian and mammalian predators on the Leadbetter Point Unit will be controlled as necessary, to help meet western snowy plover population recovery goals.
- We will manage 93 acres of short-grass fields as foraging habitat for Canada geese, elk, and other wildlife, on the Riekkola Unit. Grassland restoration will include establishing the early-blue violet host plant on 33 acres, which will serve the future reintroduction of the endangered Oregon silverspot butterfly.
- We will expand the approved Refuge acquisition boundary by 6,809 acres in the Nemah, Naselle, South Bay, and East Hills areas, and divest the Shoalwater and Wheaton Units (941 acres) from the Refuge.
- We will develop an interpretive trail and observation deck along the South Bay that will tie into our proposed Tarlatt Unit visitor/administrative facility.
- After the proposed estuarine restoration is completed, we will