

Dated: August 20, 2012.

Paul A. Mussenden,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources Revenue Management.

[FR Doc. 2012-20793 Filed 8-22-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R8-ES-2012-N205;
FXES1113080000-123-FF08E00000]

Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comment.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (Act) prohibits activities with endangered and threatened species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The Act also requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

DATES: Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before September 24, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Endangered Species Program Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606, Sacramento, CA 95825 (telephone: 916-414-6464; fax: 916-414-6486). Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel Marquez, Fish and Wildlife Biologist; see **ADDRESSES** (telephone: 760-431-9440; fax: 760-431-9624).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following applicants have applied for scientific research permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). We seek review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies and the public on the following permit requests.

Applicant

Permit No. TE-78622A

Applicant: Cornelius W. Bouscaren, San Marcos, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*

extimus) and take (monitor nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) in conjunction with surveys and population monitoring activities throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-806679

Applicant: Spring Rivers Ecological Sciences, Cassel, California

The applicant requests an amendment to a permit to take (capture, weigh, mark, voucher, collect tissue, relocate, and release) the Shasta crayfish (*Pacifastacus fortis*) in conjunction with survey and research activities throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-78621A

Applicant: Lauren E. Ross, Walnut Creek, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardi*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-035336

Applicant: San Diego State University, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit to remove and reduce to possession from lands under Federal jurisdiction the *Amsinckia grandiflora* (large-flowered fiddleneck) in conjunction with propagation, restoration, and relocation activities in Contra Costa County, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-14231A

Applicant: Caesara W. Brungraber, San Diego, California

The applicant requests an amendment to a permit to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-79192A

Applicant: Dallas R. Pugh, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-76005A

Applicant: Tara Schoenwetter, Ventura, California

The applicant requests a permit to remove and reduce to possession from lands under Federal jurisdiction the *Deinandra increscens* subsp. *villosa* (Gaviota tarplant), *Cirsium loncholepis* (La Graciosa thistle), *Layia carnosa* (beach layia), *Nasturtium gambelii* (= *Rorippa* g.) (Gambel's watercress), *Arenaria paludicola* (Marsh sandwort), and *Eriodictyon capitatum* (Lompoc yerba santa) in conjunction with survey and plant collection activities at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Santa Barbara County, California, and Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton in San Diego County, California; and take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardi*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-67570A

Applicant: Brett A. Hanshew, Oakland, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (survey, capture, handle, and release) the California tiger salamander (Sonoma County Distinct Population Segment) (*Ambystoma californiense*) and California tiger salamander (Santa Barbara County Distinct Population Segment) (*Ambystoma californiense*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-75988A

Applicant: Michael Hagar, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit to remove and reduce to possession from lands under Federal jurisdiction the following plant species in conjunction

with floristic surveys and botanical studies, and for conducting a herbarium program throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival:

Acanthoscyphus parishii var. *goodmaniana* (= *Oxytheca* p. var. g.) (Cushenbury oxytheca)
Acmispon dendroideus var. *traskiae* (= *Lotus* d. subsp. t.) (San Clemente Island broom)

Allium munzii (Munz's onion)
Ambrosia pumila (San Diego ambrosia)
Arctostaphylos glandulosa subsp. *crassifolia* (Del Mar manzanita)
Arenaria paludicola (Marsh sandwort)
Astragalus albens (Cushenbury milk-vetch)

Astragalus brauntonii (Braunton's milk-vetch)

Astragalus lentiginosus var. *coachellae* (Coachella Valley milk-vetch)

Astragalus pycnostachyus var. *lanosissimus* (Ventura Marsh milk-vetch)

Astragalus tener var. *titi* (coastal dunes milk-vetch)

Astragalus tricarinatus (triple-ribbed milk-vetch)

Atriplex coronata var. *notatior* (San Jacinto Valley crowscale)

Berberis nevinii (Nevin's barberry)

Castilleja grisea (San Clemente Island paintbrush)

Cercocarpus traskiae (Catalina Island mountain-mahogany)

Chloropyron maritimum subsp. *maritimum* (= *Cordylanthus maritimus* subsp. *maritimus*) (salt marsh bird's-beak)

Chorizanthe orcuttiana (Orcutt's spineflower)

Delphinium variegatum subsp. *kinkiense* (San Clemente Island larkspur)

Dodecahema leptoceras (= *Centrostegia* l.) (slender-horned spineflower)

Eriastrum densifolium subsp. *sanctorum* (Santa Ana River woolly-star)

Eriogonum ovalifolium var. *vineum* (cushenbury buckwheat)

Eryngium aristulatum var. *parishii* (San Diego button-celery)

Fremontodendron mexicanum (Mexican flannelbush)

Lithophragma maximum (San Clemente Island woodland-star)

Malacothamnus clementinus (San Clemente Island bush-mallow)

Monardella viminea (= *M. linoides* subsp. v.) (willow monardella)

Orcuttia californica (California Orcutt grass)

Pentachaeta lyonii (Lyon's pentachaeta)

Physaria kingii subsp. *bernardina* (San Bernardino Mountains bladderpod)

Poa atropurpurea (San Bernardino bluegrass)

Pogogyne abramsii (San Diego mesa-mint)

Pogogyne nudiuscula (Otay mesa-mint)

Nasturtium gambelii (= *Rorippa* g.) (Gambel's watercress)

Sibara filifolia (Santa Cruz Island rockcress)

Sidalcea pedata (pedate checker-mallow)

Taraxacum californicum (California taraxacum)

Thelypodium stenopetalum (slender-petaled mustard)

Permit No. TE-38475A

Applicant: Jeff M. Lemm, San Diego, California

The applicant requests an amendment to a permit to take (survey, capture, handle, collect, transport, hold in captivity, display for zoological exhibition, captive breed, apply hormonal treatments, collect and perform cryopreservation of sperm, release to the wild, and euthanize individuals that are sick or have no reasonable prospect of being reintroduced to the wild for research) the mountain yellow-legged frog (southern California Distinct Population Segment) (*Rana muscosa*) in conjunction with research, captive breeding, and population monitoring activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-195891

Applicant: Justen Whittall, Santa Clara, California

The applicant requests an amendment to a permit to remove and reduce to possession from lands under Federal jurisdiction the *Erysimum teretifolium* (Ben Lomond wallflower) in conjunction with research activities in Santa Cruz County, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-54716A

Applicant: Christine L. Harvey, San Diego, California

The applicant requests an amendment to a permit to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-034101

Applicant: Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest, San Diego, California

The applicant requests an amendment to a permit to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-76732A

Applicant: Jennifer L. Kendrick, Encinitas, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-80553A

Applicant: Aviva J. Rossi, San Anselmo, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardi*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Public Comments

We invite public review and comment on each of these recovery permit applications. Comments and materials we receive 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.

Michael Long,

Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region, Sacramento, California.

[FR Doc. 2012-20727 Filed 8-22-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-R-2011-N172; 40136-1265-0000-S3]

Laguna Cartagena National Wildlife Refuge, PR; Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of our final comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) and finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for the environmental assessment for Laguna Cartagena National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Lajas, Puerto Rico. In the final CCP, we describe how we will manage this refuge for the next 15 years.

ADDRESSES: You may obtain a copy of the CCP by writing to: Mr. Oscar Díaz, P.O. Box 510, Boquerón, PR 00622. Alternatively, you may download the document from our Internet Site: <http://southeast.fws.gov/planning/> under "Final Documents."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Oscar Díaz, at 787/851-7258 (telephone).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Introduction

With this notice, we finalize the CCP process for the refuge. We started this process through a **Federal Register** notice on May 16, 2007 (72 FR 27588).

We announce our decision and the availability of the final CCP and FONSI for Laguna Cartagena NWR in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (40 CFR 1506.6(b)) requirements. We completed a thorough analysis of impacts on the human environment, which we included in the draft comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment (Draft CCP/EA).

Compatibility determinations for wildlife observation, wildlife photography, environmental education and interpretation, fishing, non-

commercial harvesting of wild tropical fruits and plants, haying, research studies, wildlife surveying and monitoring, scientific collections, and camping (associated with environmental education, interpretation, and conservation projects) are available in the CCP.

Background

The CCP Process

The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee) (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. In addition to outlining broad management direction on conserving wildlife and their habitats, CCPs identify wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities available to the public, including opportunities for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, and environmental education and interpretation. We will review and update the CCP at least every 15 years in accordance with the Administration Act.

Comments

We made copies of the Draft CCP/EA available for a 30-day public review and comment period via a **Federal Register** notice on May 2, 2011 (76 FR 24511). Several comments were received.

Selected Alternative

We developed three alternatives for managing the refuge. After considering the comments we received and based on the professional judgment of the planning team, we selected Alternative B for implementation. Under Alternative B, we will provide greater management of all habitats and associated plant communities. We will reintroduce native fish to the lagoon and actively support birds that are threatened, endangered, or of management interest, including West Indian whistling ducks and kestrels.

Under this alternative, specific activities that will be expanded or introduced will include: (1) Initiating surveys for bats, breeding birds, waterfowl, and species such as the Puerto Rican nightjar, yellow-shouldered black bird, and short-eared

owl; (2) managing endangered plant populations, including *Aristida chauseae*; (3) constructing a plant nursery and increasing native vegetative planting in the uplands; (4) reducing the occurrence of exotic species; and (5) managing the lagoon's water quality and open-water restoration efforts.

Under this alternative, we will conduct historical/archaeological surveys of the entire refuge. Visitor services facilities and programs will be expanded. Specifically, improving parking areas, providing additional directional signs, improving and updating our refuge Web site, creating a refuge brochure, developing a trail system and an additional photo platform at La Tinaja, and increasing onsite environmental education programs and community interpretive programs will all be undertaken under this alternative. We will also work to expand our volunteer program. Additional staff, such as a biologist, biological technician, two engineering equipment operators, forestry technician (fire), park ranger or environmental education specialist, GIS specialist (shared with other refuges in Puerto Rico, and law enforcement officer (shared with Cabo Rojo National Wildlife Refuge), will be needed to implement this management action.

Authority

This notice is published under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, Public Law 105-57.

Dated: August 31, 2011.

Mark J. Musaus,
Acting Regional Director.

Editorial Note: This document was received at the Office of the Federal Register on August 20, 2012.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R4-R-2011-N171; 40136-1265-0000-S3]

Cabo Rojo National Wildlife Refuge, PR; Final Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Finding of No Significant Impact for Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the