

*Status of the Proposed Information Collection:* Extension of a previously approved collection.

**Authority:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: May 21, 2013.

**Colette Pollard,**

*Departmental Reports Management Officer, QDAM.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R2-ES-2013-N088;  
FXES1113020000-134-FF02ENEH00]

### Endangered and Threatened Species Permit Applications

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

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of applications; request for public 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 or threatened species. The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), prohibits activities with endangered and threatened species unless a Federal permit allows such activities. The Act and the National Environmental Policy Act also require that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, written comments must be received on or before June 27, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Marty Tuegel, Section 10 Coordinator, by U.S. mail at Division of Endangered Species, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Room 6034, Albuquerque, NM 87103 at 505-248-6920. Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Susan Jacobsen, Chief, Endangered Species Division, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103; 505-248-6651.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Public Availability of Comments

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

public comment before issuing these permits.

A permit granted by us under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act authorizes applicants to conduct activities with U.S. endangered or threatened species for scientific purposes, enhancement of survival or propagation, or interstate commerce. Our regulations regarding implementation of section 10(a)(1)(A) 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, Tribal, and Federal agencies, and the public to comment on the following applications. Please refer to the appropriate permit number (e.g., Permit No. TE-123456) when requesting application documents and when submitting comments.

Documents and other information the applicants have submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).

#### Permit TE-041875

*Applicant:* John Koprowski, Tucson, Arizona.

Applicant requests a renewal to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of, capture, ear tag, radio collar, and monitor Mount Graham red squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus grahamensis*) within the Pinaleño Mountains, Graham County, Arizona.

#### Permit TE-143922

*Applicant:* Texas Environmental Studies and Analysis, LLC., Kingsville, Texas.

Applicant requests an amendment to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), northern aplomado falcon (*Falco femoralis septentrionalis*), interior least tern (*Sterna antillarum athalassos*), and red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) within Texas.

#### Permit TE-834782

*Applicant:* Westland Resources, Inc., Tucson, Arizona.

Applicant requests an amendment to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of Sonora tiger salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum stebbinsi*) within Arizona.

#### Permit TE-106555

*Applicant:* Clay Fischer, Austin, Texas.

Applicant requests a renewal to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of the following species in Texas:

- Black-capped vireo (*Vireo atricapilla*)
- Golden-cheeked warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*)
- Jaguarundi (*Herpailurus yagouaroundi*)
- Houston toad (*Bufo houstonensis*)
- Ocelot (*Leopardus pardalis*)
- Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)

#### Permit TE-038055

*Applicant:* University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Applicant requests a renewal to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of Rio Grande silvery minnow (*Hybognathus amarus*), spikedace (*Meda fulgida*) and loach minnow (*Tiaroga cobitis*) within New Mexico.

#### Permit TE-038055

*Applicant:* K-9 University, LLC, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of American burying beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*) using trained canines within Oklahoma.

#### Permit TE-036912

*Applicant:* Tohono O'odham Nation, Sells, Arizona.

Applicant requests an amendment to a current permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct scat collection, analysis, and tracking for jaguar (*Panthera onca*), jaguarundi (*Herpailurus yagouaroundi*), and ocelot (*Leopardus pardalis*) within Pima County, Tohono O'odham Nation, Arizona.

#### Permit TE-03766B

*Applicant:* Marron and Associates, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Applicant requests a new permit for research and recovery purposes to conduct presence/absence surveys of southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*).

#### National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

In compliance with NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), we have made an initial determination that the proposed activities in these permits are categorically excluded from the

requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement (516 DM 6 Appendix 1, 1.4C(1)).

#### 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: May 10, 2013.

Joy E. Nicholopoulos,

Acting Regional Director, Southwest Region.

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Notice of Public Meetings for the Newlands Project Resource Management Plan

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Reclamation has made available for public review and comment, the Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP)/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Newlands Project. This RMP/DEIS provides a range of alternatives for managing Reclamation-administered lands in the Newlands Project Planning Area, which is in the west-central Nevada counties of Washoe, Storey, Lyon, and Churchill.

**DATES:** Submit written comments on the RMP/DEIS on or before July 29, 2013.

Reclamation will hold two public open house meetings to provide information and receive comments on the RMP/DEIS:

- Tuesday, June 18, 2013, 3:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m., Fallon, NV

- Wednesday, June 19, 2013, 4:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m., Reno, NV

**ADDRESSES:** Please send written comments to Mr. Bob Edwards, RMP Project Manager, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza Street, Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701; via fax at 775-882-7592; or by email to [redwards@usbr.gov](mailto:redwards@usbr.gov). Written comments also may be submitted during the public meetings.

The public meetings will be held at the following locations:

- Fallon at Churchill County Commission Chambers, 155 N. Taylor Street, Suite 110, Fallon, NV 89406
- Reno at Hyatt Place Reno-Tahoe Airport, 1790 East Plumb Lane, Reno, NV 89502

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Bob Edwards at 775-884-8342. The RMP/DEIS will be available from the following Web site: [http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa\\_projdetails.cfm?Project\\_ID=2822](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa_projdetails.cfm?Project_ID=2822). See the

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for locations where copies of the RMP/DEIS are available for public review.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Newlands Project provides irrigation water from the Truckee and Carson Rivers for cropland in the Lahontan Valley near Fallon and benchlands near Fernley in western Nevada through a series of diversions, canals, dams, and reservoirs. The Newlands Project Planning Area encompasses approximately 442,000 acres surrounding the Newlands Project facilities and is composed of all Reclamation-administered lands, including water bodies, managed as part of the Newlands Project.

The Newlands Project lands have been administered to date in accordance with applicable directives and standards. The purpose of the Newlands Project RMP is to provide a single, comprehensive land use plan that will guide contemporary resource and recreation needs of the Federal lands administered by Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) in the Newlands Project planning area. The RMP will help support the Newlands Project's authorized purposes: Water supply, recreation, water quality, support of fish and wildlife, and any other purposes recognized as beneficial under the laws of Nevada.

This RMP addresses the use of Federal lands administered by Reclamation in the planning areas that are ancillary to the primary purpose of providing water for irrigation. The water resource itself and the facilities and infrastructure used to transport and store water are excluded from this RMP/DEIS.

This RMP/DEIS addresses the interrelationships among the various resources in the Newlands Project Planning Area and provides management options to balance resource management between Reclamation's mission and authority, and the needs of the public to use these lands. Reclamation's authority to prepare the RMP is outlined in the Reclamation Recreation Management Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-575, Title 28).

The purposes of the Newlands Project RMP are as follows:

- Provide a framework to ensure Reclamation plans and activities comply with all appropriate federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, and policies;
- Provide for the protection and management of natural and cultural resources and public health and safety;
- Provide for non-water based recreation management and development and other uses consistent with contemporary and professional resource management and protection theories, concepts, and practices; and
- Be consistent with Reclamation's fiscal goals and objectives.

The RMP is needed because no unifying management plan exists to guide Reclamation in achieving the demands listed above.

#### Draft Resource Management Plan

Three management alternatives were developed to address the major planning issues. Each alternative provides direction for resource programs based on the development of specific goals and management actions. Each alternative describes specific issues influencing land management and emphasizes a different combination of resource uses, allocations, and restoration measures to address issues and resolve conflicts among users. Resource program goals are met in varying degrees across alternatives. Management scenarios for programs not tied to major planning issues or mandated by laws and regulations often contain few or no differences in management between alternatives.

The alternatives vary in the degree to which activities are allowed or restricted, the amount of access allowed for activities, and the amount of mitigation or restoration required for authorized activities. Grazing is where the alternatives differ the most and was of most interest to the public during scoping.

Copies of the RMP/DEIS are available for public review at the following locations: