

maximum extent practicable, minimize and mitigate the impacts of such taking; (3) an applicant has ensured that adequate funding for the plan will be provided; (4) the taking will not appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival and recovery of the species in the wild; and (5) the measures, if any, we require as necessary or appropriate for the purposes of the plan will be met. Regulations governing permits for endangered and threatened species are at 50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32, respectively.

Public Scoping

A primary purpose of the scoping process is to receive suggestions and information on the scope of issues and alternatives to consider when drafting the environmental analysis/document, and to identify significant issues and reasonable alternatives related to the Service's proposed action (issuance of ITPs under the GCP). In order to ensure that we identify a range of issues and alternatives related to the proposed action, we invite comments and suggestions from all interested parties. We will conduct a review of this project according to the requirements of NEPA and its regulations, other relevant Federal laws, regulations, policies, and guidance, and our procedures for compliance with applicable regulations. Once the draft environmental analysis/document and draft GCP are prepared, we will offer further opportunities for public comment on the content of the NEPA document and the GCP through an appropriate public comment period.

Proposed Action

The proposed action is issuance of an incidental take permit for the covered species to proponents engaged in geophysical exploration (seismic), development, extraction, storage, transport, remediation, and/or distribution of crude oil, natural gas, and/or other petroleum products, and construction, maintenance, operation, repair, and decommissioning of oil and gas pipelines and well field infrastructure. The proposed GCP, which must meet the requirements in section 10(a)(2)(A) of the Act, would be developed by the Service and implemented by proponents that are issued ITPs under the plan. This will allow for a comprehensive mitigation approach for authorized impacts, which will result in more effective conservation, while at the same time providing a more efficient mechanism for permit processing for the Service and proponents.

Actions covered under the requested incidental take permit may include possible take of covered species

associated with activities including, but not limited to, geophysical exploration (seismic), development, extraction, storage, transport, remediation, and/or distribution of crude oil, natural gas, and/or other petroleum products, and construction, maintenance, operation, repair, and decommissioning of oil and gas pipelines and well field infrastructure. The proposed permits would provide coverage for a period of the specified lifetime of each individual project permitted under the GCP. This proposed plan would not circumvent the need for project compliance with other permit requirements for oil and gas projects or other required approval processes that may include county hearings and local approval. The species covered under the requested incidental take permit are the California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*), and the Lompoc yerba santa (*Eriodictyon capitatum*).

Other Alternatives

We seek information regarding other reasonable alternatives during this scoping period and will evaluate the impacts associated with such alternatives in the draft environmental analysis/document.

Public Availability of Comments

Written comments we receive become part of the public record associated with this action. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that the 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. Comments and materials we receive, as well as supporting documentation we use in preparing the draft environmental analysis/document, will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the Service's Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office in Ventura, California (see **ADDRESSES**, above).

Authority

We publish this notice in compliance with the NEPA and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1501.7, 1506.6, and 1508.22), the Department of the Interior's NEPA implementing regulations at 43 CFR 46.235, and section 10(c) of the ESA.

Dated: July 26, 2017.

Stephen P. Henry,
Field Supervisor, Pacific Southwest Region,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Indian Affairs

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Indian Gaming; Approval of a Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact in the State of South Dakota

AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe of the Crow Creek Reservation and the State of South Dakota entered into a compact superseding an existing Tribal-State compact governing Class III gaming; this notice announces approval of the Proposed Gaming Compact Between the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe of the Crow Creek Reservation and the State of South Dakota governing Class III gaming.

DATES: This notice is applicable as of August 2, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Paula L. Hart, Director, Office of Indian Gaming, Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs, Washington, DC 20240, (202) 219-4066.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 11 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) requires the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to publish in the **Federal Register** notice of approved Tribal-State compacts that are for the purpose of engaging in Class III gaming activities on Indian lands. *See* Public Law 100-497, 25 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.* All Tribal-State Class III compacts, including amendments, are subject to review and approval by the Secretary under 25 CFR 293.4. The Compact increases the number of permissible slot machines from 250 to 500, permits the Tribe to operate Class III gaming at a second location, and increases wager limits. The initial duration of the Compact is 10 years with automatic renewals every 10 years thereafter unless the agreement is terminated by the Tribe and the State. The Compact is approved. *See* 25 U.S.C. 2710(d)(8)(A).

Dated: June 26, 2017.

Michael S. Black,
Acting Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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