

- For the four Census Regions (to be used for those metropolitan areas that are not covered by a CPI city-survey and non-metropolitan areas).

AAFs use the same Office of Management and Budget (OMB) metropolitan area definitions, as revised by HUD, that are used for the FY 2021 FMRs.

**Area Definitions**

To make certain that they are using the correct AAFs, users should refer to the Area Definitions Table section at <http://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/aaf.html>. The Area Definitions Table lists CPI areas in alphabetical order by state, and the associated Census region is shown next to each state name. Areas whose AAFs are determined by local CPI surveys are listed first. All metropolitan areas with local CPI survey areas have separate AAF schedules and are shown with their corresponding county definitions or as metropolitan counties. In the six New England states, the listings are for counties or parts of counties as defined by towns or cities. The remaining counties use the CPI for the Census Region and are not separately listed in the Area Definitions Table at <http://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/aaf.html>.

Puerto Rico uses its own AAFs calculated from the Puerto Rico CPI as adjusted by the PRCS, the Virgin Islands uses the South Region AAFs and the Pacific Islands use the West Region AAFs.

**Todd M. Richardson,**

*General Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Policy Development and Research.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-R2-NWRS-2020-N072; FVRS84510200000-20X-FF02R05000]

**Notice of Receipt of Right-of-Way Application for Natural Gas Pipeline Crossing San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Receipt of Right-of-Way Application for Natural Gas Pipeline; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has received two applications for 30-year right-of-way permits from Baymark Pipeline LLC and South Texas NGL Pipeline LLC, respectively. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will open the National Wildlife Refuge System lands, allowing for this infrastructure, under the authority of the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requests public comment on the permit applications and associated documents.

**DATES:** We must receive any written comments on or before January 19, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Send your comments or requests by any one of the following methods.

- *Email:* [jennifer\\_sanchez@fws.gov](mailto:jennifer_sanchez@fws.gov) (use “Enterprise ROW” as your subject line).
- *Fax:* 979-964-4021 (use “Enterprise ROW” as your subject line).
- *U.S. mail:* Project Leader, Texas Mid-coast Complex, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2547 County Road 316, Brazoria, TX 77422.

**Public Availability of Comments**

- Written comments we receive will become part of the public record associated with this action. Please be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information, address, phone number, and email—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may request in your comment that we withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public disclosure in their entirety.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Sanchez, 979-964-4011 (phone), or [jennifer\\_sanchez@fws.gov](mailto:jennifer_sanchez@fws.gov) (email). Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 for TTY assistance.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), has received two applications for 30-year right-of-way (ROW) permits under the Mineral Leasing Act.

**Applicants’ Permit Proposals**

Baymark Pipeline LLC and South Texas NGL Pipeline LLC have each requested a 30-ft-wide pipeline right-of-way across a 203-ft-long section of the San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge NWR in Brazoria County, Texas.

The applicants request ROW permits for the following pipelines:

Applicant	Pipeline description	Material to be transported
Baymark Pipeline LLC .....	12-inch-diameter pipeline, steel .....	natural gas (ethylene).
South Texas NGL Pipeline LLC .....	8-inch-diameter pipeline, steel .....	natural gas (propylene).

The ROW permits, if granted by the Service, would enable each respective applicant to construct, operate, maintain, and terminate an ethylene and propylene pipeline. The purpose of the new pipelines would be to transport ethylene and propylene through Matagorda, Brazoria, Galveston, and Harris Counties in Texas. The requested ROWs would be collocated within an existing 30-ft pipeline ROW that is used by Florida Gas and Lavaca to transport natural gas. The existing pipeline ROW is not an exclusive area; therefore, additional uses may be

collocated within the same cleared corridor.

The applicants’ pipelines would be installed by means of a conventional bore technique under refuge land; therefore, the construction would not require trenching on refuge lands. No additional permit boundaries beyond the existing ROW are required. The bore holes would be located 300 ft outside the refuge property line on adjacent private lands.

**Next Steps**

This notice informs the public that the Service will process the ROW

permit applications from Baymark Pipeline LLC and South Texas NGL Pipeline LLC, which includes the preparation of the National Environmental Policy Act documentation along with terms and conditions of the right-of-way permit.

**Authority**

Applications for ROW for natural gas pipelines are to be filed in accordance with Section 28 of the Mineral Leasing

Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. Ch. 3A § 181), as amended, (41 Stat. 437, Pub. L. 66–146).

**Amy Lueders,**

*Southwest Region Director, Interior Region 6, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

[FR Doc. 2020–27752 Filed 12–16–20; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[Docket No. FWS–R8–ES–2020–0142; FXES112080000–201–FF08ENV500]

**Receipt of Incidental Take Permit Application and Draft Low-Effect Habitat Conservation Plan, and Draft NEPA Compliance Documentation, for the Gamebird Substation Expansion in Pahrump, Nye County, Nevada**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the proposed low-effect habitat conservation plan, and NEPA compliance documentation; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce the receipt and availability of an application for an incidental take permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and an associated draft low-effect habitat conservation plan (HCP). Additionally, consistent with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), we have prepared a draft low-effect screening form and environmental action statement supporting our preliminary determination that the proposed permit action qualifies for a categorical exclusion under NEPA. GridLiance West, LLC has applied for an ITP under the ESA for the Gamebird Substation Expansion in Pahrump, Nye County, Nevada. The ITP would authorize the take of one species incidental to the development and construction of the project. We invite the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies to comment on the permit application, proposed low-effect HCP, and NEPA categorical exclusion determination documentation. Before issuing the requested ITP, we will take into consideration any information that we receive during the public comment period.

**DATES:** We must receive your written comments on or before January 19, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:**

*Obtaining Documents:* The documents this notice announces, as well as any comments and other materials that we

receive, will be available for public inspection online in Docket No. FWS–R8–ES–2020–0142 at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

**Submitting Comments:** To send written comments, please use one of the following methods and identify to which document your comments are in reference—the ITP application, draft HCP, or NEPA compliance documentation.

- *Internet:* Submit comments at <http://www.regulations.gov> under Docket No. FWS–R8–ES–2020–0142.

- *U.S. Mail:* Public Comments Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS–R8–ES–2020–0142; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Headquarters, MS: PRB/3W, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041–3803.

For more information, see Public Comments and Public Availability of Comments under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Glen W. Knowles, Field Supervisor, Southern Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office, by phone at 702–515–5244 or via the Federal Relay Service at 800–877–8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the receipt and availability of an application submitted by GridLiance West, LLC (applicant), for a 4-year incidental take permit (ITP) under section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Application for the permit requires the preparation of an HCP with measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate the impacts of incidental take of endangered or threatened species to the maximum extent practicable. The applicant prepared the draft Low Effect HCP for the Gamebird Substation Expansion pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA. FWS consideration of issuing an ITP also requires evaluation of its potential impacts on the natural and human environment in accordance with NEPA. FWS has prepared a low-effect screening form and environmental action statement (categorical exclusion, or catex documentation), pursuant to NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 40 CFR 1501.4, to preliminarily determine if the proposed HCP qualifies as a low-effect HCP, eligible for a categorical exclusion.

**Background**

Except for permitted exceptions, section 9 of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1538 *et seq.*) prohibits the taking of fish and wildlife species listed as endangered under section 4 of the ESA; by

regulation, take of certain species listed as threatened is also prohibited (16 U.S.C. 1533(d); 50 CFR 17.31). Regulations governing the permitted exception for allowable incidental take of endangered and threatened species are at 50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32. For more about the Federal habitat conservation HCP program, go to <http://www.fws.gov/Endangered/esa-library/pdf/hcp.pdf>.

**National Environmental Policy Act Compliance**

The proposed permit issuance triggers the need for compliance with the NEPA. The draft catex documentation was prepared to determine if issuance of an ITP, based on the draft HCP, would individually or cumulatively have only a minor or negligible effect on the species covered in the HCP, and would therefore qualify as a low-effect HCP eligible for a categorical exclusion from further environmental analysis under NEPA.

*Proposed Action*

Under the proposed action, the Service would issue an ITP to the applicant for a period of 4 years for certain covered activities (described below) related to the expansion of the existing Gamebird Substation. The applicant has requested an ITP for one covered species, the Mojave desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*), which was, and remains as listed under the ESA as threatened in April 1990.

*Habitat Conservation Plan Area*

The geographic scope of the draft habitat conservation plan (HCP) area encompasses 18.2 acres in Nye County, Nevada, where the expansion will occur.

*Covered Activities*

The proposed section 10(a) ITP would allow incidental take of one covered species from covered activities in the proposed HCP area. The applicant is requesting incidental take authorization for covered activities, including site preparation, geotechnical drilling, associated infrastructure development, expansion of the substation, and the installation of a 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the substation to an existing 230-kV transmission line that runs from Pahrump to the Sloan Canyon Switch.

The applicant has proposed to minimize and mitigate for the direct impacts to desert tortoises and its habitat in the HCP area through the following measures:

1. Implementing a worker environmental awareness training program;