

spillway improvement project. The Service prepared a draft low-effect screening form and environmental action statement in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) to evaluate the potential effects to the natural and human environment resulting from issuing an ITP to the applicant. We invite public comment on these documents.

### Background

The Service listed the arroyo toad as endangered on December 16, 1994 (59 FR 64859), and published a revised final rule designating critical habitat on February 7, 2001 (66 FR 9414). The Service listed the southwestern willow flycatcher as endangered on February 27, 1995 (60 FR 10695), and published a revised final rule designating critical habitat on January 3, 2013 (78 FR 344534). The Service listed the least Bell's vireo as endangered on May 2, 1986 (51 FR 16474), and published a final rule designating critical habitat on February 2, 1994 (59 FR 4845). The Service listed the Santa Ana sucker as threatened on April 12, 2000 (65 FR 19686), and published a revised final rule designating critical habitat on December 14, 2010 (75 FR 77962). The Service listed the yellow-billed cuckoo as threatened on October 3, 2014 (79 FR 59992), and published a final rule designating critical habitat on April 21, 2021 (86 FR 20798).

Section 9 of the ESA prohibits take of fish and wildlife species listed as endangered (16 U.S.C. 1538). Under the ESA, "take" is defined to include the following activities: "to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct" (16 U.S.C. 1532). Section 4(d) of the ESA allows the Secretary to extend protections for endangered species to those listed as threatened. Under section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1539(a)(1)(B)), we may issue permits to authorize take of listed fish and wildlife species that is incidental to, and not the purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity. Regulations governing incidental take permits for endangered and threatened species are in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32. Issuance of an ITP also must not be likely to jeopardize the continued existence of federally listed fish, wildlife, or plant species, pursuant to section 7 of the ESA and 50 CFR part 402. The permittee would receive assurances under our "No Surprises" regulations (50 CFR 17.22(b)(5) and 17.32(b)(5)).

### Project

Big Tujunga Dam is a 244-foot high dam located on Big Tujunga River in the Angeles National Forest, Los Angeles County, California. The applicant requests a 30-year incidental take permit for operation and maintenance of Big Tujunga Dam, which regulates stream flows in the Big Tujunga River from Big Tujunga Dam downstream to Hansen Dam, a distance of approximately 14 miles. The incidental take permit would also address a spillway improvement project at Big Tujunga Dam.

The applicant proposes to mitigate or minimize impacts through ramping of water conservation releases during the spawning season of fish, providing up to 1,500 acre-feet of water in supplemental flows during the dry season, monitoring and adaptive management to benefit covered species, funding of nonnative species removal or other recovery measures, and best management practices. The proposed plan also allows for the potential translocation of Santa Ana sucker upstream of Big Tujunga Dam to expand the range of this species.

### Our Preliminary Determination

The Service has made a preliminary determination that issuance of the ITP and implementation of the project is not a major Federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*). Moreover, issuance of the ITP and implementation of the project individually and cumulatively will not have more than a minor or negligible effect on federally listed or covered species and the environment. Therefore, we have preliminarily concluded that the ITP for this project would qualify for categorical exclusion as provided by our NEPA regulations at 43 CFR 46.205 and 46.215.

### Next Steps

We will evaluate the proposed HCP and any comments received to determine whether to issue the requested permit. We will also conduct an intra-Service consultation pursuant to section 7 of the ESA to evaluate the effects of our proposed action. After considering the above findings, we will determine whether the permit issuance criteria of section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA have been met. If the criteria are met, we will issue the permit to the applicant for incidental take.

### Public Availability of Comments

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 may 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(c) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1539 *et seq.*) and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

### Kristine Petersen,

*Acting Field Supervisor, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, Carlsbad, California.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-HQ-R-2021-N217;  
FXGO1664091HCC0-FF09D00000-190]

### Hunting and Wildlife Conservation Council Charter Renewal; Request for Nominations

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and Department of Agriculture (USDA) are renewing the charter for and seeking member nominations to the Hunting and Wildlife Conservation Council (Council). The renewed Council replaces and changes the name of the previous Hunting and Shooting Sports Conservation Council. The Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture (Secretaries), after consultation with the General Services Administration, have renewed the Council charter for 2 years. The Council will provide recommendations to the Federal Government, through the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) and the Secretary of Agriculture, regarding the establishment and implementation of existing and proposed policies and authorities with regard to wildlife and habitat conservation endeavors that benefit wildlife resources; encourage partnership among the public, sporting conservation organizations, and Federal, State, Tribal, and territorial governments; and benefit recreational hunting and recreational shooting sports.

**DATES:** Comments regarding the establishment of this Council must be

submitted no later than March 7, 2022. Nominations for the Council must be submitted by March 21, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments and nominations via email to [doug\\_hobbs@fws.gov](mailto:doug_hobbs@fws.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Douglas Hobbs, by telephone at (703) 358-2336, or by email at [doug\\_hobbs@fws.gov](mailto:doug_hobbs@fws.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Council is established under the authority of the Secretary and regulated by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended (5 U.S.C. appendix 2). The Council's duties are strictly advisory and consist of, but are not limited to, providing recommendations for implementation of Executive Order 13443, Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation; Executive Order 14008, Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad; and Secretarial Order 3362, Improving Habitat Quality in Western Big Game Winter Range and Migration Corridors. Duties include, but are not limited to:

A. Assessing and quantifying implementation of Executive Order 13443, Executive Order 14008, and Secretarial Order 3362 across relevant departments, agencies, and offices and making recommendations to enhance and expand their implementation as identified;

B. Making recommendations regarding policies and programs that accomplish the following objectives:

1. Conserve and restore wetlands, grasslands, forests, and other important wildlife habitats, and improve management of rangelands and agricultural lands to benefit wildlife;

2. Promote opportunities for fair chase hunting and safe recreational shooting sports and wildlife-associated recreation on public and private lands; encourage hunting and recreational shooting sports safety, including by developing sighting-in ranges on public lands; recruit and retain hunters; increase public awareness of the importance of wildlife conservation and the social and economic benefits of fair chase hunting, safe recreational shooting sports, and wildlife-associated recreation; and

3. Encourage coordination among the public; the hunting and shooting sports communities; wildlife conservation groups; wildlife-associated recreation interests; and Federal, State, Tribal, and territorial governments.

The Council will meet at least two times per year. The Secretaries will appoint members and their alternates to the Council to serve up to a 3-year term. The Council will not exceed 18 discretionary primary members, up to

18 alternate members, and 4 ex officio members. Ex officio members will include:

- Secretary of the Interior or designated DOI representatives;
- Secretary of Agriculture or designated Department of Agriculture representatives; and
- Executive Director, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

The Secretaries will select remaining members from among, but not limited to, the organization/interests listed below. These members must be senior-level representatives of their organization and/or have the ability to represent their designated constituencies.

- State fish and wildlife management agencies;
- Wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations;
- Upland bird hunting organizations;
- Waterfowl hunting organizations;
- Big game hunting organizations;
- Shooting sports interests;
- Archery interests;
- Wildlife-associated recreation interests;
- Tourism, outfitter, and/or guide industries related to hunting and/or wildlife conservation;
- Tribal resource management organizations;
- Agriculture interests;
- Ranching interests; and
- Veterans' service organizations.

#### Member Terms and Vacancies To Fill

Each member is appointed to serve a 3-year term. Nominations are sought to fill 10 primary member positions and at least 5 alternate member positions. We are requesting nominations to fill vacancies to represent the following organizations/interests:

- Tribal resource management organizations;
- State fish and wildlife management agencies;
- Wildlife and habitat conservation/management organizations;
- Waterfowl hunting organizations;
- Shooting sports interests;
- Archery interests;
- Wildlife-associated recreation interests; and
- Big game hunting organizations.

#### Nomination Method and Information

Nominations should include a resume providing an adequate description of the nominee's qualifications, including information that would enable DOI to make an informed decision regarding meeting the membership requirements of the Council and the national interest potentially represented, and to permit DOI to contact a potential member.

Members of the Council serve without compensation. However, while away from their homes or regular places of business, Council and subcommittee members engaged in Council or subcommittee business that the designated Federal official (DFO) approves may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5703, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Federal Government service.

**Public Disclosure of Comments:** 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.

**Certification Statement:** I hereby certify that the Hunting and Wildlife Conservation Council is necessary, in the public interest, and is in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture under 43 U.S.C. 1457 and provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742a), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1996 (43 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 1600 *et seq.*), the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd–668ee), and Executive Order 13443, Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation.

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. appendix 2.

Dated: January 24, 2022.

**Deb Haaland,**

*Secretary, Department of the Interior.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[L1990000.PO0000.LLWO320.20X; OMB Control No. 1004-0121]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Leasing of Solid Minerals Other Than Coal and Oil Shale

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.