

of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("we") solicits review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies, and the public on the following permit requests. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail 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.

Permit No. TE-174276

Applicant: Bio Spatial Solutions, LLC, Elk Grove, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to take (capture, collect, kill, and hatch cysts) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), the longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), the Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), the San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and the vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with surveys and research throughout the range of each species in California, for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. TE-174305

Applicant: Vandenberg Air Force Base, Vandenberg AFB, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to take (survey, locate, and monitor nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) and the Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*); take (survey, capture, and release) the unarmored threespine stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus williamsoni*) and tidewater goby (*Eucyclogobius newberryi*); take (survey by pursuit) the El Segundo Blue butterfly (*Euphilotes battoides allyni*), and remove/remove to possession the *Rorippa gambellii* (Gambel's watercress), *Hemizonia increscens ssp. villosa* (Gaviota tarplant), *Layia carnosa* (Beach layia), *Eriodictyon capitatum* (Lompoc Yerba Santa), and *Cirsium loncholepis* (La Graciosa thistle) from Federal lands, in conjunction with surveys and population monitoring throughout Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-058073

Applicant: Susan Christopher, Santa Margarita, California.

The permittee requests an amendment to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of the species in California, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-172629

Applicant: Christina Sloop, Santa Rosa, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to remove/remove to possession the *Limnanthes floccosa ssp. Californica* (Butte County meadowfoam), *Limnanthes vincularis* (Sebastopol meadowfoam), *Lasthenia burkei* (Burke's goldfields), and *Plennosperma bakeri* (Sonoma sunshine) from federal lands in conjunction with genetic sampling for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. TE-122602

Applicant: Joseph B. Platt, Irvine, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to take (harass by survey) the Southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of the species in California and Arizona, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-875386

Applicant: California Cooperative Research Unit, Arcata, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to remove/remove to possession the *Amsinckia grandiflora* (Large flowered fiddleneck), *Cordylanthus mollis ssp. mollis* (Soft bird's beak), *Erysimum capitatum ssp. angustatum* (Contra Costa wallflower), *Lasthenia conjugens* (Contra Costa goldfields), *Oenothera deltoids ssp. howellii*, (Antioch Dunes evening primrose), *Orcuttia tenuis*, (Slender orcutt grass), *Orcuttia viscida*, (Sacramento Orcutt grass), and *Tuctoria mucronata*, (Solano grass) from federal lands in conjunction with botanical surveys for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. TE-175385

Applicant: Ammon M. Rice, Roseville, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to take (capture, collect, and kill) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), the longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), the Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), the San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and the vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with surveys

throughout the range of each species in California, for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. TE-108093

Applicant: Daniele Tannourji, Santa Cruz, California.

The applicant requests an amendment to remove/remove to possession the *Lasthenia conjugens* (Contra Costa goldfields) from federal lands in conjunction with botanical surveys and germination studies for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

We solicit 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.

Dated: February 25, 2008.

Michael Fris,

Acting Regional Director, Region 8, Sacramento, California.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Corvallis, OR

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan and environmental assessment; and request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) intend to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for the William L. Finley, Baskett Slough, and Ankeny National Wildlife Refuges (Refuges). We will also prepare an environmental assessment (EA) evaluating effects of various CCP alternatives. The Refuges are located in the Willamette Valley, within Benton, Linn, Marion, and Polk Counties, Oregon. We are furnishing this notice to advise other government agencies, Tribes, and the public of our intentions, and to obtain public comments, suggestions, and information on the scope of issues to be considered during the planning process.

DATES: We request your written comments on the scope of the CCP by March 31, 2008. All comments received during scoping will be considered during development of the Draft CCP and EA.

ADDRESSES: Address comments, questions, and requests for information to: Doug Spencer, Project Leader, Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex, 26208 Finley Refuge Rd., Corvallis, OR 97333. Comments may be faxed to (541) 757-4450, or e-mailed to FW1PlanningComments@fws.gov. Include Willamette Valley Refuges CCP in the subject line of your message. Additional information about the CCP planning process is available on the Internet at: <http://www.fws.gov/willamettevalley/ccp>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Doug Spencer, Project Leader, Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex, phone (541) 757-7236.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee), requires all lands within the National Wildlife Refuge System to be managed in accordance with an approved CCP. A CCP guides refuge management decisions, and identifies long-range goals, objectives, and strategies for achieving the purposes for which the refuge was established. During the CCP planning process many elements will be considered, including wildlife and habitat protection and management, public use opportunities, and cultural resource protection. Public input during the planning process is essential. The CCP for the William L. Finley, Baskett Slough, and Ankeny Refuges will describe desired Refuge conditions and the long-term goals, objectives, and strategies for achieving those conditions. To evaluate potential impacts of CCP alternatives, we will prepare an environmental assessment in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*)

Background

The Refuges were established in the 1960s under the Migratory Bird Conservation Act "for use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds * * * to conserve and protect migratory birds * * * and to restore or develop adequate wildlife habitat" with emphasis on protecting dusky Canada geese. The Refuges' habitats include wetlands, wet prairies, upland oak woodland, oak savanna/upland prairie, mixed-deciduous woodlands, riparian, and riverine. Agricultural lands, the majority managed as grass fields, are also present on the Refuges. The Refuges

support a significant portion of the wintering dusky Canada goose population in addition to other subspecies of Canada geese, and contain some of the last tracts of native habitats in the Willamette Valley, particularly wet prairie and oak savanna/upland prairie. The Refuges support key populations of federally listed species, including Oregon chub, Fender's blue butterfly, Bradshaw's desert-parsley, Kincaid's lupine, Nelson's checker-mallow, and Willamette daisy. Many other rare, but not yet listed species are also found on the Refuges. Additional information on the Refuges is available at: <http://www.fws.gov/willamettevalley>.

Preliminary Issues, Concerns, and Opportunities

We identified the following categories of preliminary issues for consideration in the planning process: The Refuges' role in wintering Canada geese habitat; restoration and maintenance of native habitats; maintenance and recovery of listed and rare species; managing Roosevelt elk on William L. Finley Refuge; water and wetland management; providing sustainable wildlife-dependent recreation; maintaining historical structures; managing invasive species; and managing on-going Refuge programs and commitments in an era of tight budgets. Additional issues may be identified during public scoping.

Public Availability of Comments

All comments we receive become part of the public record. Requests for comments will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, NEPA, and Service and Department of the Interior policies and procedures. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail 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 to withhold it from public review, we cannot guarantee we will be able to do so.

Dated: December 5, 2007.

David J. Wesley,

Acting Regional Director, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[ID-300-2824-DS-PJ04]

Notice of Availability of Fire, Fuels and Related Vegetation Management Direction Proposed Plan Amendment and Final Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of Fire, Fuels, and Related Vegetation Management Direction Proposed Plan Amendment (FMDA) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

SUMMARY: The Burley and the Shoshone Field Offices of the Twin Falls District and the Pocatello and Upper Snake Field Offices of the Idaho Falls District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), located in south-central and eastern Idaho, have prepared a proposed land use plan amendment and environmental impact statement to establish management guidance and objectives for vegetation resources as they relate to fire and fuels. This planning process is in conformance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), and the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy of 1995, as revised. The Proposed Plan Amendment is Alternative E, developed in response to public comment. Alternative E, which emphasizes protection and restoration of both rangeland and forest resources, is also considered to be the environmentally preferred alternative.

DATES: No decision on the proposed plan will be made for at least 30 days after the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability of this Final EIS in the **Federal Register**. BLM regulations (43 CFR 1610.5-2) state that any person who participated in the planning process and has an interest that may be adversely affected may protest the BLM's approval of the FMDA FEIS. The protest must be filed within 30 days of the date that the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability.

Instructions for filing protests with the BLM are included in the Dear Reader letter of the FMDA FEIS and in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the FEIS are available upon request from the Pocatello Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 4350 Cliffs Drive,