

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Hubbs Sea World Research Institute, the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, the Caribbean Stranding Network, and Mote Marine Laboratory. In addition, the Service consulted publications such as the Journal of Wildlife Management, Marine Mammal Science, Marine Pollution Bulletin, Marine Technology Society Journal, Wildlife Monographs, Gulf and Caribbean Research, Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine, Molecular Ecology, and Molecular Ecology Notes, as well as other refereed journal literature, technical reports, and data sources in the development of these SARs. A complete list of citations to the scientific literature relied on for each of these SARs is available on the Federal eRulemaking portal (<https://www.regulations.gov>) under Docket No. FWS-R4-ES-2022-0031 or upon request from the Florida Ecological Services Field Office or Caribbean Ecological Services Field Office (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

Authority

The authority for this action is the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*).

Signing Authority

Martha Williams, Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, approved this action on March 24, 2023, for publication. On March 24, 2023, Martha Williams authorized the undersigned to sign the document electronically and submit it to the Office of the Federal Register for publication as an official document of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Madonna Baucum,

Chief, Policy and Regulations Branch, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2023-06505 Filed 3-28-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4333-15-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[Docket No. FWS-R4-ES-2023-0039; FXES1113040000-223-FF04EF4000]

Receipt of Incidental Take Permit Application and Proposed Habitat Conservation Plan for the Sand Skink and Blue-Tailed Mole Skink; Polk County, FL; Categorical Exclusion

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce receipt of an application from JDT of Central Florida (applicant) for an incidental take permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act. The applicant requests the ITP to take the federally threatened sand skink (*Plestiodon reynoldsi*) and the federally threatened blue-tailed mole-skink (*Eumeces egregius lividus*) incidental to the construction of a residential development in Polk County, Florida. We request public comment on the application, which includes the applicant's proposed habitat conservation plan (HCP), and on the Service's preliminary determination that the proposed permitting action may be eligible for a categorical exclusion pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations, the Department of the Interior's (DOI) NEPA regulations, and the DOI Departmental Manual. To make this preliminary determination, we prepared a draft environmental action statement and low-effect screening form, both of which are also available for public review. We invite comment from the public and local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies.

DATES: We must receive your written comments on or before April 28, 2023.

ADDRESSES:

Obtaining Documents: You may obtain copies of the documents online in Docket No. FWS-R4-ES-2023-0039; at <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Submitting Comments: If you wish to submit comments on any of the documents, you may do so in writing by one of the following methods:

- **Online:** <https://www.regulations.gov>.

Follow the instructions for submitting comments on Docket No. FWS-R4-ES-2023-0039;

- **U.S. Mail:** Public Comments

Processing, Attn: Docket No. FWS-R4-ES-2023-0039; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: PRB/3W, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alfredo Begazo, by U.S. mail (see **ADDRESSES**), by telephone at 772-469-4234 or via email at alfredo_begazo@fws.gov. Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service),

announce receipt of an application from JDT of Central Florida (applicant) for an incidental take permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). The applicant requests the ITP to take the federally listed sand skink (*Plestiodon reynoldsi*) and blue-tailed mole-skink (*Eumeces egregius lividus*) (skinks) incidental to the construction and operation of a residential development in Polk County, Florida. We request public comment on the application, which includes the applicant's habitat conservation plan (HCP), and on the Service's preliminary determination that this proposed ITP qualifies as "low effect," and may qualify for a categorical exclusion pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations (40 CFR 1501.4), the Department of the Interior's (DOI) NEPA regulations (43 CFR 46), and the DOI's Departmental Manual (516 DM 8.5(C)(2)). To make this preliminary determination, we prepared a draft environmental action statement and low-effect screening form, both of which are also available for public review.

Proposed Project

The applicant requests a 5-year ITP to take two skink species via the conversion of approximately 1.53 acres (ac) of occupied nesting, foraging, and sheltering skink habitat incidental to the construction and operation of a residential development on a 14.34-ac parcel in Section 13, Township 26 South, Range 27 East, Polk County, Florida. The applicant proposes to mitigate for take of the skinks by purchasing credits equivalent to 3.06 ac of skink-occupied habitat from a Service-approved conservation bank. The Service would require the applicant to purchase the credits prior to engaging in any construction phase of the project.

Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made available to the public. While you may request that we withhold your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Our Preliminary Determination

The Service has made a preliminary determination that the applicant's project—including the construction of multiple single-family residences, driveways, parking spaces, green areas,

stormwater pond, and associated infrastructure (e.g., electric, water, and sewer lines)—would individually and cumulatively have a minor effect on the skinks and the environment. Therefore, we have preliminarily determined that the proposed ESA section 10(a)(1)(B) permit would be a “low-effect” ITP that individually or cumulatively would have a minor effect on the species and may qualify for application of a categorical exclusion pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality’s NEPA regulations, DOI’s NEPA regulations, and the DOI Departmental Manual. A “low-effect” incidental take permit is one that would result in (1) minor or negligible effects on species covered in the HCP; (2) nonsignificant effects on the human environment; and (3) impacts that, when added together with the impacts of other past, present, and reasonable foreseeable actions, would not result in significant cumulative effects to the human environment.

Next Steps

The Service will evaluate the application and the comments 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 the proposed take. After considering the preceding and other matters, we will determine whether the permit issuance criteria of section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA have been met. If met, the Service will issue ITP number PER 0068766 to JDT of Central Florida.

Authority

The Service provides this notice under section 10(c) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 17.32), and NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR 1500–1508 and 43 CFR 46).

Robert L. Carey,

*Manager, Division of Environmental Review,
Florida Ecological Services Field Office.*

[FR Doc. 2023–06494 Filed 3–28–23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLMT912000

L11600000.BN0000.MO#4500169350]

Call for Nominations to the Missouri Basin and Western Montana Resource Advisory Councils

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of call for nominations.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to request public nominations for the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Missouri Basin and Western Montana Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) to fill existing vacancies, as well as for member terms that are scheduled to expire. The RACs provide advice and recommendations to the BLM on land use planning and management of the National System of Public Lands within their geographic areas.

DATES: All nominations must be received no later than April 28, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Applications for the Missouri Basin RAC should be sent to Mark Jacobsen, BLM Eastern Montana/Dakotas District Office, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, MT 59301; (406) 233–2831; [mjacobse@blm.gov](mailto:mjacobsen@blm.gov); or Gina Baltrusch, BLM North Central Montana District Office, 1220 38th Street N, Great Falls, MT 59405; (406) 791–7778. Applications for the Western Montana RAC should be sent to David Abrams, BLM Butte Field Office, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, MT 59701; (406) 533–7617; dabrams@blm.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann Boucher, BLM Montana/Dakotas State Office, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, MT 59101, (406) 896–5011, aboucher@blm.gov.

Individuals in the United States who are deaf, blind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Land Policy and Management Act directs the Secretary of the Interior to involve the public in planning and issues related to the management of lands administered by the BLM through the establishment of 10- to 15-member citizen-based advisory councils that are managed in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). As required by FACA, RAC membership must be balanced, and representative of the various interests concerned with the management of the public lands. The rules governing RACs are found at 43 CFR subpart 1784 and include the following three membership categories:

Category One—Holders of Federal grazing permits or leases within the area for which the RAC is organized; represent interests associated with transportation or rights-of-way; represent developed outdoor recreation,

off-highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation activities; represent the commercial timber industry; or represent energy and mineral development.

Category Two—Representatives of nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations; dispersed recreational activities; archaeological and historical interests; or nationally or regionally recognized wild horse and burro interest groups.

Category Three—Hold State, county, or local elected office; are employed by a State agency responsible for the management of natural resources, land, or water; represent Indian Tribes within or adjacent to the area for which the RAC is organized; are employed as academicians in natural resource management or the natural sciences; or represent the affected public-at-large.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others. Missouri Basin RAC Nominees must be residents of the States of Montana, North Dakota, or South Dakota. Western Montana RAC Nominees must be residents of the State of Montana. The BLM will evaluate nominees based on their education, training, experience, and knowledge of the geographic area of the RAC. Nominees should demonstrate a commitment to collaborative resource decision-making.

The following must accompany all nominations:

- A completed RAC application, which can either be obtained through the nominee’s BLM office or online at: https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/1120-019_0.pdf;
- Letters of reference from represented interests or organizations; and
- Any other information that addresses the nominee’s qualifications.

Simultaneous with this notice, BLM Montana/Dakotas will issue a press release providing additional information for submitting nominations.

Before including any address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in the application, nominees should be aware this information may be made publicly available at any time. While the nominee can ask to withhold the personal identifying information from public review, the BLM cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

(Authority: 43 CFR 1784.4–1)

Kimberly O. Prill,

Acting Montana/Dakotas State Director.

[FR Doc. 2023–06436 Filed 3–28–23; 8:45 am]

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