

Permit No. TE-25257B

Applicant: Joseph A.E. Stewart, Santa Cruz, California

The applicant requests a permit to take (survey, capture, handle, mark/recapture, and release) the blunt-nosed leopard lizard (*Gambelia silus*) in conjunction with surveys, population studies, and research activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-233367

Applicant: Laura E. Gorman, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal and amendment to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) and take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with survey and population monitoring activities throughout the range of each species in California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, and Colorado for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-020548

Applicant: U.S. Geological Survey, Vallejo, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal and amendment to take (survey, capture, handle, mark, collect genetic material, and release) the salt marsh harvest mouse (*Reithrodontomys raviventris*) and take (harass by survey, capture, handle, band, color-mark, radio-tag, collect genetic material, candle eggs, salvage eggs and carcasses, and release) the Yuma clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris yumanensis*) and California clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris obsoletus*) in conjunction with survey activities, population monitoring, and research activities throughout the range of each species in California and Arizona for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-041668

Applicant: Cleveland National Forest, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal and amendment to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the arroyo toad (=arroyo southwestern) (*Anaxyrus californicus* (*Bufo microscaphus* c.)), take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests, and remove brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) eggs and chicks from parasitized nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*

extimus), take (locate and monitor nests, and remove brown-headed cowbird eggs and chicks from parasitized nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), and reduce and remove to possession (collect) the *Dodecahema leptoceras* (slender-horned spineflower), *Allium munzii* (Munz's onion), *Astragalus brauntonii* (Braunton's milk-vetch), *Berberis nevinii* (Nevin's barberry), and *Poa atropurpurea* (San Bernardino bluegrass) in conjunction with surveys and life history studies throughout the range of each species on Cleveland National Forest lands within San Diego, Orange, and Riverside Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-837439

Applicant: Guy P. Bruyera, Hemet, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) and Delhi Sands flower-loving fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminates abdominalis*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Public Comments

We invite 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.

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.

Michael Long,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region, Sacramento, California.

[FR Doc. 2014-03602 Filed 2-19-14; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-R8-ES-2013-N247;
FXES1113080000-145-FF08E00000]

Endangered Species Recovery Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of permit applications; request for comment.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, invite the public to comment on the following applications to conduct certain activities with endangered species. With some exceptions, the Endangered Species Act (Act) prohibits activities with endangered and threatened species unless a Federal permit allows such activity. The Act also requires that we invite public comment before issuing these permits.

DATES: Comments on these permit applications must be received on or before March 24, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Written data or comments should be submitted to the Endangered Species Program Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8, 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606, Sacramento, CA 95825 (telephone: 916-414-6464; fax: 916-414-6486). Please refer to the respective permit number for each application when submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel Marquez, Fish and Wildlife Biologist; see **ADDRESSES** (telephone: 760-431-9440; fax: 760-431-9624).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following applicants have applied for scientific research permits to conduct certain activities with endangered species under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). We seek review and comment from local, State, and Federal agencies and the public on the following permit requests.

Applicant

Permit No. TE-157216

Applicant: United States Geological Survey, Dixon, California

The applicant requests an amendment to a permit to take (harass by palpation of captured individuals for stomach contents) the San Francisco garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis tetrataenia*) in conjunction with scientific research activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-207867

Applicant: Michael A. Richard, Orange, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (survey, capture, handle, and release) the San Bernardino kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-095860

Applicant: Veronica A. Wunderlich, Pleasant Hill, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, capture, handle, and release) the California tiger salamander (Sonoma County Distinct Population Segment (DPS)) (*Ambystoma californiense*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-095858

Applicant: Arianne B. Preite, Orange, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*); take (survey and monitor nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*); take (harass by survey) the light-footed clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris levipes*) and take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-217663

Applicant: Ann M. Dalkey, Redondo Beach, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (survey by pursuit) the Palos Verdes blue butterfly (*Glaucopsyche lygdamus palosverdesensis*) and El Segundo blue butterfly (*Euphilotes battoides allyni*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-31406A

Applicant: California State Parks, Ventura, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests, and install symbolic fencing) the California least tern (*Sternula antillarum browni*) (*Sterna a. b.*) in conjunction with survey and nest monitoring activities in Ventura County, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-844030

Applicant: Arthur E. Davenport, Barstow, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (locate and monitor nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*); take (harass by survey and locate and monitor nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*); take (harass by survey) the Yuma clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris yumanensis*) and light-footed clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris levipes*); take (capture, handle, and release) the Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*), San Bernardino kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys merriami parvus*), Pacific pocket mouse (*Perognathus longimembris pacificus*), arroyo toad (arroyo southwestern) (*Anaxyrus californicus* (*Bufo microscaphus c.*)), and desert pupfish (*Cyprinodon macularius*); and take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) in conjunction with surveys, research, and population monitoring activities within the range of each species as specified in the permit, in Los Angeles, Imperial, San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Kern, Inyo, Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Clara Counties, California, and in Clark, Lincoln, and Nye Counties, Nevada, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-781084

Applicant: Anita M. Hayworth, Encinitas, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey and locate and monitor nests) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*); take (locate and monitor nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*); take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*); and take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta*

longiantenna), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with survey and population monitoring activities throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-844030

Applicant: Eda C. Eggeman, Redding, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*) and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species in Shasta and Tehama Counties, California, for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-051248

Applicant: Paul M. Lemons, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*); take (survey by pursuit) the Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*); and take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species as specified in the permit in California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-72045A

Applicant: Alisa C. Zych, Cardiff by the Sea, California

The applicant requests a permit amendment to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-045153

Applicant: Dustin S. Janeke, San Diego, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (survey by pursuit) the

Quino checkerspot butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*); and take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species in California for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Permit No. TE-795934

Applicant: ICF Jones and Stokes, Incorporated, Sacramento, California

The applicant requests a permit renewal to take (harass by survey) the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*), delta smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificus*), and California tiger salamander (Santa Barbara County DPS and Sonoma County DPS) (*Ambystoma californiense*); and take (capture, collect, and collect vouchers) the Conservancy fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta conservatio*), longhorn fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta longiantenna*), Riverside fairy shrimp (*Streptocephalus woottoni*), San Diego fairy shrimp (*Branchinecta sandiegonensis*), and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (*Lepidurus packardii*) in conjunction with survey activities throughout the range of each species as specified in the permit in California and Oregon for the purpose of enhancing the species' survival.

Public Comments

We invite 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.

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.

Michael Long,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region, Sacramento, California.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R7-R-2013-N070;
FXRS12650700000-145-FF07R05000]

Record of Decision for Final Environmental Impact Statement; Izembek National Wildlife Refuge Proposed Land Exchange/Road Corridor, Cold Bay, Alaska

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability: record of decision.

SUMMARY: We, the Department of the Interior (Department) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of the record of decision (ROD) for the final environmental impact statement (EIS) for a proposed land exchange/road corridor on the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge), Alaska. We prepared this ROD pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and its implementing regulations. We provide this notice to advise the public and other agencies of our decision and of availability of the ROD.

DATES: Both the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Secretary of the Interior signed the ROD on December 23, 2013.

ADDRESSES: You may view or obtain copies of the ROD by any of the following methods:

Web site: Download a copy of the document(s) at <http://izembek.fws.gov/eis.htm>.

Email: izembek_eis@fws.gov; include "Izembek National Wildlife Refuge ROD" in the subject line of the message.

Fax: Attn: Stephanie Brady, Project Team Leader, 907-786-3901.

U.S. Mail: Stephanie Brady, Project Team Leader, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 East Tudor Rd., MS-231, Anchorage, AK 99503.

In-Person Viewing or Pickup: You may view or pick up a copy of the ROD during regular business hours at the address listed above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie Brady, 907-306-7448, or by one of the addresses above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: With this notice, we finalize the EIS process for the Proposed Land Exchange/Road Corridor in the Izembek Refuge, Alaska. In accordance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (40 CFR 1506.6(b)) requirements, this notice announces the availability of the ROD for the final EIS for a Proposed Land

Exchange/Road Corridor in the Izembek Refuge. We completed a thorough analysis of the effects on the human environment of each alternative considered, including environmental, social, and economic considerations, which were included in the final EIS. The ROD documents our selection of Alternative 1, the No Land Exchange Alternative (No Action Alternative), which was the Service's preferred alternative in the final EIS. Under this decision, the Service will not exchange land with the State of Alaska and the King Cove Corporation for the purpose of constructing a road between the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay, Alaska. Under this decision, we will continue to manage lands within the Refuge consistent with and following the Izembek Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan. For more background on the Refuge, and the public involvement process to date, please see our notice published Wednesday, February 6, 2013 (78 FR 8577).

Background

The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111-11, Title VI, Subtitle E) (OPLMA) directed the Secretary of the Interior to analyze the land exchange, alternatives for road construction and operation, and a specific road corridor through the Izembek Refuge and the Izembek Wilderness. The proposed land exchange would transfer to the State of Alaska all right, title, and interest to a road corridor for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a single-lane gravel road between the communities of King Cove and Cold Bay, Alaska. As provided by OPLMA, the road "shall be used primarily for health and safety purposes (including access to and from the Cold Bay Airport) and only for noncommercial purposes." The OPLMA requires the Secretary to make this decision in compliance with NEPA, which requires analysis of the effects of alternatives, including a "no action" alternative, and any other applicable law.

Alternatives Considered

The Final EIS evaluated in detail five alternatives, including a No Action Alternative and four action alternatives:

Alternative 1—No Action and Preferred Alternative

Under Alternative 1, the Service would not exchange lands with the King Cove Corporation and the State of Alaska for the purpose of constructing a road between King Cove and Cold Bay, Alaska. Current modes of transportation