

The applicant requests a permit to take (locate and monitor nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), take (locate and monitor nests, capture, handle, and release) the California least tern (*Sterna antillarum browni*), and the southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of each species in California, Arizona, and New Mexico for the purpose of enhancing their survival.

Permit No. TE-118371

Applicant: K2 Environmental LLC, Bend, Oregon.

The applicant requests a permit to take (locate and monitor nests) the least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*) in conjunction with surveys throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-118338

Applicant: Jana Johnson, Winnetka, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (captive rear) the Palos Verdes blue butterfly (*Gaucopsyche lygdamus palosverdesensis*) in conjunction with a breeding program in Los Angeles County, California, for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-118356

Applicant: Olofson Environmental, Inc., Oakland, California.

The applicant requests a permit to take (harass by survey, locate and monitor nests) the California clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris obsoletus*) in conjunction with demographic studies throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

Permit No. TE-068072

Applicant: Philippe Vergne, Ramona, California.

The permittee requests an amendment to take (capture, handle, mark, and release) the Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*) in conjunction with demographic studies throughout the range of the species in California for the purpose of enhancing its survival.

We solicit public review and comment on each of these recovery permit applications.

Dated: January 19, 2006.

Michael B. Fris,

Acting Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability for the Renewal of an Expired Section 10(a)(1)(B) Permit for Incidental Take of the Golden-Cheeked Warbler in Travis County, Texas (Hunt)

SUMMARY: On July 21, 1999, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) issued a section 10(a)(1)(B) permit, pursuant to section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act (Act), for incidental take of the golden-cheeked warbler (GCW) (*Dendroica chrysoparia*) to James (Jim) Hunt. The permit (TE-010556-0) was for a period of five years and expired on July 21, 2004. The requested permit renewal by Jim Hunt will extend the permit expiration by five years from the date the permit is reissued.

DATES: To ensure consideration, written comments must be received on or before March 15, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the request for extension, former incidental take permit, or other related documents may obtain a copy by written or telephone request to Scott Rowin, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78758, (512/490-0057 ext. 224). Documents will be available for public inspection by written request, or by appointment only, during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) at the Fish and Wildlife Service Austin Office. Comments concerning the request for renewal should be submitted in writing to the Field Supervisor at the above address. Please refer to permit number TE-010556-0 when submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Scott Rowin at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Austin Office, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78758 (512/490-0057 ext. 224), or by e-mail, Scott_Rowin@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 9 of the Act prohibits the "taking" of endangered species such as the GCW. However, the Service, under limited circumstances, may issue permits to take endangered wildlife species incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for endangered species are at 50 CFR 17.22. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Applicant: Jim Hunt plans to construct a single family residence (SFR) on his 10-acre lot located adjacent

to City Park Road in Austin, Travis County, Texas. The construction of a SFR on approximately one acre of the 10-acre lot will eliminate less than one acre of GCW habitat and indirectly impact less than four additional acres of habitat. The original permit included, and the Applicant continues to propose to compensate for incidental take of the GCW by providing \$1,500 to the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve, and placing a perpetual conservation easement on the remaining approximately nine acres to the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve. Since this property is located within the acquisition boundaries of the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve, it will add additional acreage to the preserve. The Applicant has agreed to follow all of the existing permit terms and conditions. If renewed, all of the permit terms and conditions will remain the same, and no additional take will be authorized.

Geoffrey L. Haskett,

Acting Regional Director, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Receipt of an Application and Availability of an Environmental Assessment for an Incidental Take Permit for Construction of a School and Adjacent Roads in Volusia County, Florida

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Public Works Department of Volusia County and the Volusia County School Board (Applicants) request incidental take permits (ITP) each with 5-year term, pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Applicants jointly prepared a single Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) identifying anticipated impacts to the Florida scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) (scrub-jay) associated with road construction (Public Works Department) and construction of a new high school and its supporting infrastructure (School Board) within sections 10 and 15, Township 18 South, Range 30 East, Volusia County, Florida.

The Applicants' HCP describes the mitigation and minimization measures proposed to address the effects of road and school construction on the Florida scrub-jay. These measures are outlined