

Dated: December 10, 2008.

Teresa H. McKittrick.

Acting Regional Director, Southeast Region.

[FR Doc. E8-29890 Filed 12-17-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R2-ES-2008-N0311]; [20124-1113-0000-F2]

Barton Creek Office Park Environmental Assessment and Habitat Conservation Plan, Travis County, TX

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Habitat Conservation Plan (EA/HCP).

SUMMARY: Brandywine Realty Trust (Applicant) has applied to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The Applicant has been assigned permit number TE-198648-0. The requested permit, which is for a period of 30 years, would authorize incidental take of the endangered golden-cheeked warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*). The proposed take would occur as a result of the construction and operation of the 14.83-acre Barton Creek Office Park.

DATES: To ensure consideration, we must receive written comments on or before February 17, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to review the application and/or EA/HCP may obtain a copy by written or telephone request to William Amy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, TX 78758 (512/490-0057, extension 234). All 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 above address. Data or comments concerning the application and HCP should be submitted in writing to the Field Supervisor at the above address. Please refer to permit number TE-198648-0 when submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Amy at the above address.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 9 of the Act prohibits the "taking" of endangered species such as the golden-cheeked warbler. 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.

The subject tract is located in southwest Austin, on the west side of the Capital of Texas Highway (also known as Loop 360) immediately across from the intersection of Walsh Tarlton Lane, Travis County, Texas. Habitat for the golden-cheeked warbler has been documented on and adjacent to the subject tract. An EA/HCP has been included as part of the permit application. A determination of jeopardy or non-jeopardy to the species and a decision pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act will not be made until at least 60 days from the date of publication of this notice. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act and National Environmental Policy Act regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Applicant: Brandywine Realty Trust plans to construct and operate a commercial development on the 14.83-acre tract and pay Travis County an amount equal to 79.47 acres (the proposed alternative's mitigation acreage) multiplied by the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan's (the "BCCP") fee level under its Alternative Process option (currently \$6,500 per acre) in effect at the time of such payment. Payment shall be made prior to initiation of clearing activities for the development.

In the event that the Alternative Process fee option becomes unavailable, the Applicant will provide funding in the amount of \$516,555 toward the acquisition of 79.47 acres of land within the Balcones Canyonlands Preserve (BCP) acquisition area.

The EA/HCP was prepared to consider the impacts of the proposed action on the human environment and to address impacts to listed species as a result of developing the subject tract. This document describes the impacts to the golden-cheeked warbler that would likely result from the development, steps the Applicant would take to minimize and mitigate such impacts to the maximum extent practicable, the funding available to implement those steps, and the alternatives that have been considered.

Thomas L. Baur,

Acting Regional Director, Region 2.

[FR Doc. E8-30038 Filed 12-17-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[WO-260-09-1060-00-24 1A]

Call for Nominations for the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Call for Nominations.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this notice is to solicit public nominations for three members to the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board. The Board provides advice concerning management, protection and control of wild free-roaming horses and burros on the public lands administered by the Department of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, and the Department of Agriculture, through the Forest Service.

DATES: Nominations should be submitted to the address listed below no later than February 17, 2009.

ADDRESSES: National Wild Horse and Burro Program, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, P.O. Box 12000, Reno, Nevada 89520-0006, Attn: Ramona Delorme; Fax 775-861-6618.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Don Glenn, Division Chief, Wild Horse and Burro Program, (202) 452-5073.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may contact Ramona Delorme at any time by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Nominations for a term of three years are needed to represent the following categories of interest:

Wildlife Management

Humane Advocacy

Livestock Management

Any individual or organization may nominate one or more persons to serve on the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board. Individuals may also nominate themselves for Board membership. All nomination letters/or resumes should include the following:

1. Which positions are you interested in being considered for;
2. Nominee's Full Name;
3. Business Address and Phone: (include e-mail address).
4. Home Address and Phone: (include e-mail address).
5. Present Occupation/Title;
6. Education: (colleges, degrees, major field of study);

7. *Career Highlights*: Significant related experience, civic and professional activities, elected offices (included prior advisory committee experience or career achievements related to the interest to be represented) Attach additional pages, as necessary.

8. *Qualifications*: Education, training and experience that qualify you to serve on the Board.

9. *Experience or knowledge of wild horse and burro management and the issues facing the Bureau of Land Management*:

10. *Experience or knowledge of horses or burros*: (Equine health, training and management)

11. *Experience in working with disparate groups to achieve collaborative solutions*: (e.g., civic organizations, planning commissions, school boards)

12. *Indicate any BLM permits, leases or licenses that you hold*:

13. *Attach or have Letters of References sent from Special Interests or Organizations you may represent. Also letters of endorsement from business associates, friends, coworkers, local State and/or Federal government or members of Congress if applicable.*

The above information is critical in determining selection and will influence the appointments.

As appropriate, certain Board members may be appointed as Special Government Employees. Special Government Employees serve on the board without compensation, and are subject to financial disclosure requirements in the Ethics in Government Act and 5 CFR 2634. Nominations are to be sent to the address listed under **ADDRESSES**, above.

Each nominee will be considered for selection according to their ability to represent their designated constituency, analyze and interpret data and information, evaluate programs, identify problems, work collaboratively in seeking solutions and formulate and recommend corrective actions. Pursuant to section 7 of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, Members of the Board cannot be employed by either Federal or State Government. Members will serve without salary, but will be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at current rates for Government employees. The Board will meet no less than two times annually. The Director, Bureau of Land Management may call additional

meetings in connection with special needs for advice.

Edwin L. Roberson,

Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning.

[FR Doc. E8-30072 Filed 12-17-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[UTU-27917; UTU-47084; UTU-79134; UTU-79796; UTU-27918; UTU-79133; UTU-79795]

Notice of Proposed Reinstatement of Terminated Oil and Gas Leases, Utah

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Title IV of the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act (Pub. L. 97-451), Whiting Oil and Gas Corporation timely filed a petition for reinstatement of oil and gas leases UTU27917, UTU27918, UTU47084, UTU79133, UTU79134, UTU79795, and UTU79796, for lands in Summit and San Juan County, Utah, and it was accompanied by all required rentals and royalties accruing from October 1, 2008, the date of termination.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kent Hoffman, Deputy State Director, Division of Lands and Minerals at (801) 539-4080.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Lessee has agreed to new lease terms for rentals and royalties at rates of \$5 and \$10 per acre and 16 $\frac{2}{3}$ percent, respectively. The \$500 administrative fee for the leases has been paid and the lessee has reimbursed the Bureau of Land Management for the cost of publishing this notice.

Having met all the requirements for reinstatement of the leases as set out in Section 31(d) and (e) of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C. 188), the Bureau of Land Management is proposing to reinstate the leases, effective October 1, 2008, subject to the original terms and conditions of the leases and the increased rental and royalty rates cited above.

Dated: December 11, 2008.

Kent Hoffman,

Deputy State Director, Division of Lands and Minerals.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[CA-320-1610-DR; CA-350-1610-DR; CA-370-1610-DR]

Notice of Availability of Record of Decision for the Sage Steppe Ecosystem Restoration Strategy for the Alturas, Eagle Lake, and Surprise Field Offices

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) policies, the BLM announces the availability of the Records of Decision (RODs) for the Sage Steppe Ecosystem Restoration Strategy for the Alturas, Eagle Lake, and Surprise Field Offices. The RODs constitute the final decisions of the BLM and make the Sage Steppe Ecosystem Restoration Strategy effective immediately.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the RODs are available at the following locations: Alturas Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, 708 West 12th Street, Alturas, CA 96101; Eagle Lake Field Office 2950 Riverside Drive, Susanville, CA 96130; and Surprise Field Office, 602 Cressler Street, Cedarville, CA 96104. The RODs are also available on the internet at <http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/prog/planning.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information contact Jeff Fontana, Public Affairs Officer, Bureau of Land Management, 2950 Riverside Dr., Susanville, CA 96130, telephone (530) 257-0456.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: One of the most significant factors affecting the health, diversity and productivity of public lands in the region is the rapid expansion and encroachment of western juniper into the sagebrush steppe ecosystem. Western juniper has significantly increased in density and distribution since the late 1800's and if left unchecked can have significant impacts on soil resources, plant community structure and composition, water and nutrient cycles, and wildlife habitat. In order to address this ecosystem management issue across jurisdictional boundaries, the BLM joined forces with the United States Forest Service (USFS) and county governments to develop a comprehensive vegetation management strategy across a planning area that encompasses 6.5 million acres of public