

the species, establish criteria for the recovery levels for downlisting or delisting them, and estimate time and cost for implementing the recovery measures needed.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), requires the development of recovery plans for listed species unless such a plan would not promote the conservation of a particular species. Section 4(f) of the Act, as amended in 1988, requires that a public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. The Service will consider all information presented during a public comment period prior to approval of each new or revised recovery plan. The Service and other Federal agencies will also take these comments into account in the course of implementing approved recovery plans.

The species considered in this draft recovery plan is the Alabama cave shrimp (*Palaemonias alabamiae*). The Alabama cave shrimp is a small, colorless, and nearly transparent decapod crustacean up to 30 millimeters (1.2 inches) in total length. The shrimp occurs in pools of water in a cave environment. In caves with high energy flows, the shrimp must have access through cave windows (openings) to calmer groundwater habitat. This species was listed as endangered on September 7, 1988. Available information indicates the overall population may be declining and the shrimp is apparently extirpated from Shelta Cave, the type locality. Groundwater contamination represents the major threat to this cave-dwelling species. Other threats include destruction of habitat, collecting, and predation.

The objective of this proposed plan is reclassification of the Alabama cave shrimp to threatened status. Reclassification will be considered when five reproducing populations have been identified and protected in five groundwater basins, and the populations persist in these basins, as evidenced by monitoring, over a 20-year period. Proper public stewardship of groundwater and surface water quality and quantity surrounding the five populations is essential for recovery. Actions needed to reach this goal—1) protecting populations and habitat, 2) encouraging local stewardship for caves and recharges areas through education, 3) monitoring populations, 4) searching for additional populations, 5) studying species biology, and 6) modifying or replacing gated entrance to Shelta cave.

This Plan is being submitted for agency review. After consideration of

comments received during the review period, it will be submitted for final approval.

#### Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the recovery plan described. All comments received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of the plan.

Authority: The authority for this action is Section 4(f) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533(f).

Dated: August 29, 1996.

Cary Norquist,

*Acting Field Supervisor.*

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#### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-930-1430-01; N-40257, N-40258, N-40259, N-40260, N-40261, N-40262, N-40263, N-40264, N-40268, N-40269, N-40270, N-40990]

#### Termination of Desert Land Act/Carey Act Classification and Opening Order, Nevada

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice terminates Desert Land Act/Carey Act classifications N-40257, N-40258, N-40259, N-40260, N-40261, N-40262, N-40263, N-40264, N-40268, N-40269, N-40260, and N-40990 in their entirety and opens the land to appropriation under the public land laws and general mining laws, subject to any valid existing rights.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 20, 1996.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary R. Craggett, Bureau of Land Management, Battle Mountain Field Office, 50 Bastian Road, P.O. Box 1420, Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820, (702) 635-4000.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On August 20, 1985, the public lands described below were classified as suitable for entry under the Desert Land Act (19 Stat. 377; 43 U.S.C. 231, as amended) and the Carey Act (28 Stat. 372, 422; 43 U.S.C. 641-647, as amended)

Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 3 N., R. 53 E.,

Sec. 1, lots 3 & 4, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 3, S $\frac{1}{2}$ ;

Sec. 7, lots 1 & 2, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 8, N $\frac{1}{2}$ ;

Sec. 10, N $\frac{1}{2}$ ;

Sec. 12, N $\frac{1}{2}$ .

T. 4 N., R. 53 E.,

Sec. 14;

T. 4 N., R. 54 E.,

Sec. 2, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 3, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 7, lot 4, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;

Sec. 16;

Sec. 18, lot 1, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

The area described contains 3,833.84 acres in Nye County.

Entry to the lands was allowed in June and July of 1990 under provisions of the Desert Land Act, segregating the entered land from all other forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including location under the mining laws. Final proof on each entry was due within four years of entry allowance. Final proof was not made on any of the 12 entries, which were cancelled in 1995.

The classification no longer serves any purpose; accordingly, pursuant to section 7 of the Taylor Grazing Act (48 Stat. 1272), the aforementioned classification for entry under the Desert Land Act or the Carey Act is hereby terminated.

At 10 a.m. on September 20, 1996, the land will be opened to the operation of the public land laws generally, subject to valid existing rights, the provision of existing withdrawals, other segregation of record, and the requirements of applicable law.

At 10 a.m. on September 20, 1996, the land will be opened to location and entry under the United States mining laws and to the operation of the mineral leasing and material disposal laws, subject to valid existing rights, the provision of existing withdrawals, other segregation of record, and the requirements of applicable law. Appropriation of any of the land described in this order under the general mining laws prior to the date and time of restoration is unauthorized. Any such attempted appropriation, including attempted adverse possession under 30 U.S.C. 38 (1988), shall vest no rights against the United States. Acts required to establish a location and to initiate a right of possession are governed by State law where not in conflict with Federal law. The Bureau of Land Management will not intervene in disputes between rival locators over possessory rights since Congress has provided for such determinations in local courts.

Dated: August 22, 1996.

Gerald M. Smith,

*District Manager, Battle Mountain.*

[FR Doc. 96-22549 Filed 9-04-96; 8:45 am]

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