

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**47 CFR Chapter I**

[CC Docket No. 97-146, FCC 97-219]

Complete Detariffing for Competitive Access Providers and Competitive Local Exchange Carriers; Correction

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule; correction.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission published in the **Federal Register** of July 17, 1997, a document concerning a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for complete detariffing for all non-ILEC providers of interstate exchange access services. Inadvertently no due date for Reply Comments or OMB Comments was provided. This document provides those dates.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Bailey, (202) 418-1520.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Correction**

In the **Federal Register** issue of July 17, 1997, in FR Doc. 97-18882, on page 38244, in the first column, correct the DATES caption to read:

DATES: Comments are due on or before August 18, 1997. Reply comments are due on or before September 17, 1997. Written comments submitted by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on the proposed modifications to information collections are due on or before September 26, 1997.

Dated: July 22, 1997.

Federal Communications Commission.

William F. Caton,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-19775 Filed 7-25-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Fish and Wildlife Service****50 CFR Part 17**

RIN 1018-AE31

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Proposed Rule to List the Illinois Cave Amphipod as Endangered

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) proposes endangered status pursuant to the Endangered

Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), for the Illinois cave amphipod, *Gammarus acherondytes*. Historically, the amphipod was known from six cave streams in Monroe and St. Clair counties, Illinois. Recent surveys have found the species at only three of the original six sites. This species is believed to be threatened primarily by groundwater pollution which is likely due to the application of pesticides in cave stream recharge areas (the area of land surface from which water drains into a particular cave stream). A possible secondary threat is contamination of subsurface water by human and animal wastes from sewage and septic systems and livestock feedlots.

DATES: Comments from all interested parties must be received by September 26, 1997. Public hearing requests must be received by September 11, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments and materials concerning this proposal should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Field Office, 4469 48th Avenue Court, Rock Island, Illinois. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard C. Nelson, Field Supervisor, Illinois Field Office (see ADDRESSES section) (telephone 309/793-5800; facsimile 309/793-5804).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

The Illinois cave amphipod was described by Hubricht and Mackin (1940). Type specimens were collected by Leslie Hubricht in 1938 from Morrison's Cave (now Illinois Caverns), near Burksville, Illinois.

Sexually mature males are up to 20.0 millimeters (mm) (0.8 inch (in.)) long; sexually mature females are 12.0 to 16.0 mm (0.5 to 0.6 in.) long. Their color in light is light gray-blue and their eyes are reniform, small and degenerate with the pigment drawn away from the facets in an irregular black mass. Their first antenna is long and slender, more than one-half the length of the body. The primary flagellum has up to forty segments and the secondary flagellum has up to six segments. The second antenna is about three-fourths as long as the first antenna. The flagellum of the second antenna has up to 18 segments and lacks sensory organs in either sex. Hubricht and Mackin (1940), reported that its clutch size is up to 21 eggs and Holsinger (1972) reported that ovigerous

(egg-bearing) females have been observed in summer and fall.

This species is best differentiated from other amphipods in the field, especially from *G. fasciatus*, which it resembles, by its color, small degenerate eyes, and a much longer first antenna. It is usually associated with the larger *G. troglophilus* (Hubricht and Mackin 1940) but is much less common (Holsinger 1972).

This species is a troglobitic (cave dependent) species inhabiting the dark zone of cave streams. As a group, amphipods require cold water and are intolerant of wide ranges in temperature. They are strongly sensitive to touch and react negatively to light. High levels of dissolved oxygen appears to be an environmental necessity. They are omnivorous scavengers, feeding on dead animal and plant matter or the thin bacterial film covering most submerged surfaces throughout their aquatic habitat.

The Illinois cave amphipod is endemic to the Illinois Sinkhole Plain of Monroe and St. Clair counties and was historically known from six cave systems, which are all within a 16 kilometer (10 mile) radius of Waterloo, Illinois. The main entrances to two of the caves, Illinois Caverns and Fogelpole Cave, are in public ownership and the other four are privately owned. The cave streams from which this species is historically known are each fed by a separate and distinct watershed or recharge area, and there are no known interconnections between them, with the possible exception of two caves that may become hydrologically connected during extremely high rainfall over short periods of time (Samuel V. Panno, Illinois Natural History Survey, Champaign, IL, *in litt.*, 1996). Thus, it is believed that there is virtually no opportunity for this species to become distributed to other cave systems via natural pathways.

There are few data on which to base population, productivity or trend estimates for this species. Sampling for cave fauna is difficult at best and is compounded by the relatively small size of this species. Survey data do not, and probably cannot, show a decline in numbers of this small subterranean invertebrate, but they do demonstrate a decline in its range and number of extant populations. Since Hubricht's initial 1940 collections of unknown numbers from two caves, other collections have been made in 1965 (at least 19 specimens taken from the two 1940 caves, plus a third cave), 1972 (unknown numbers taken from two additional caves), 1974 (six specimens taken from one of the 1940 caves), 1986