

designed to monitor the success of its implementation.

The monitoring program includes three components: (1) An effectiveness monitoring protocol implemented yearly to detect statewide trends of the Karner blue butterfly habitat, presence and relative abundance, (2) self-monitoring to integrate partner survey and management information, and (3) an adaptive management approach. As part of an adaptive management approach, the partners have agreed that modified conservation measures and alternative management regimes will be implemented if monitoring indicates that conservation efforts do not produce the anticipated, desirable result for the butterfly.

The stated biological goal of this HCP is no-net-loss of habitat for the Karner blue butterfly over the life of the plan. A primary objective is to maintain a shifting mosaic of habitat across the Wisconsin landscape over time, which will provide for the ecological needs of the species.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act. The Service will evaluate the permit application, HCP, Implementation Agreement, Partners' Species and Habitat Conservation Agreements, and comments submitted relative to the proposed action to determine whether the application meets the requirements of section 10(a) of the Act. If it is determined that the requirements are met, a permit will be issued for the incidental take of Karner blue butterfly.

Reference Cited

Schweitzer, D.F. 1989. Fact sheet for the Karner blue butterfly with special reference to New York. The Nature Conservancy, internal document, 7 pp.

Dated: April 6, 1999.

Marvin E. Moriarty,

Acting Regional Director, Region 3, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

[FR Doc. 99-9247 Filed 4-13-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered and Threatened Species Permit Applications

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of application.

The following applicant has applied for a permit to conduct certain activities with endangered species. This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of

the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531, *et seq.*).

PRT-697830

Applicant: Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Region 3, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

The applicant requests an amendment to his permit for scientific take activities of listed species in Region 3 to add the Topeka shiner (*Notropis topeka*), a recently listed species, for scientific purposes and the enhancement of propagation or survival of the species in the wild, in accordance with listing, recovery outlines, recovery plans and/or other Service work for the species.

Written data or comments should be submitted to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Operations, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55111-4056, and must be received within 30 days of the date of this publication.

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to the following office within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Operations, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, Minnesota 55111-4056. Telephone: (612/713-5343); FAX: (612/713-5292).

Dated: April 7, 1999.

Charles M. Wooley,

Assistant Regional Director, Ecological Services, Region 3, Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

[FR Doc. 99-9248 Filed 4-13-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Receipt of Application for an Incidental Take Permit for the Hord Residential Development Project, in Los Osos, San Luis Obispo County, California

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: Joe and Cindy Hord have applied for an incidental take permit from the Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. The Hords are requesting a 10-year permit to allow the incidental take of the federally endangered Morro shoulderband snail (*Helminthoglypta walkeriana*) associated with a proposed 4.2-acre residential development project

in the community of Los Osos, San Luis Obispo County, California. The permit application includes a Habitat Conservation Plan and an Implementation Agreement, both of which are available for public review and comment. The Service also announces the availability of an Environmental Assessment for the proposed issuance of the incidental take permit. All comments on the Assessment and permit application will become part of the administrative record and may be released to the public.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before May 14, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Diane Noda, Field Supervisor, Fish and Wildlife Service, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, California 93003; facsimile (805) 644-3958.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kate Symonds, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address or telephone (805) 644-1766.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Document Availability

If you would like copies of the documents for review, please contact the office listed above immediately. Documents also are available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

Background

Under Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act and its implementing regulations, taking of threatened and endangered wildlife species is prohibited. Under the Act, the term "take" means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, capture or collect listed wildlife, or attempt to engage in such conduct. Harm includes habitat modification that kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding, or sheltering. Under limited circumstances, the Service may issue permits to take threatened or endangered wildlife species if such taking is incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Regulations governing permits for threatened and endangered species are found at 50 CFR 17.22 and 17.32.

The Hords need an incidental take permit because the proposed construction of their residential development project would result in the permanent loss of 1.5 acres of habitat that supports the Morro shoulderband snail within the 4.2-acre project site. The Hord's permit application includes a Habitat Conservation Plan (Plan) that