

Channel Polar population, Northwest Territories, Canada for personal use.

Written data or comments, requests for copies of the complete application, or requests for a public hearing on this application should be sent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management Authority, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203, telephone 703/358-2104 or fax 703/358-2281 and must be received within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice. Anyone requesting a hearing should give specific reasons why a hearing would be appropriate. The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Director.

Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, *subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act*, 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, Office of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone: (703/358-2104); FAX: (703/358-2281).

Dated: June 18, 1999.

**Pamela Hall,**

*Acting Chief, Branch of Permits, Office of Management Authority.*

[FR Doc. 99-16057 Filed 6-23-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Notice of Availability of a Draft Revised Recovery Plan for *Liatris helleri* (Heller's Blazing Star) for Review and Comment

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of document availability and public comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announces the availability for public review of a draft revised recovery plan for *Liatris helleri* (Heller's blazing star). Heller's blazing star is a perennial herb that grows on high cliffs, rock ledges, and balds in the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina. We solicit review and comments from the public on this draft revised plan.

**DATES:** Your comments on the draft revised recovery plan must be received on or before August 23, 1999 in order to receive consideration..

**ADDRESSES:** If you wish to review the draft revised recovery plan, you may

obtain a copy by contacting the Asheville Field Office. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 160 Zillicoa Street, Asheville, North Carolina 28801 (Telephone 828/258-3939). Written comments and materials regarding the plan should be addressed to the State Supervisor at the above address. Comments and materials received are available on request for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Nora Murdock at the address and telephone number shown in the ADDRESSES section (Ext. 231).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

Restoring endangered or threatened animals and plants to the point where they are again secure, self-sustaining members of their ecosystems is a primary goal of the Service's endangered species program. To help guide the recovery effort, the Service is working to prepare recovery plans for most of the listed species native to the United States. Recovery plans describe actions considered necessary for the conservation of the species, criteria for recognizing 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, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (Act), 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 the 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 primary species considered in this draft revised recovery plan is *liatris helleri* (Heller's blazing star). The areas of emphasis for recovery actions are the North Carolina counties of Avery, Caldwell, Burke, and Ashe. Habitat protection, population augmentation and reintroduction, and the preservation of genetic material are the major objectives of this recovery plan.

#### Public Comments Solicited

We solicit written comments on the recovery plan described. All comments

received by the date specified above will be considered prior to approval of the final plan.

#### Authority

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

Dated: June 16, 1999.

**Nora A. Murdock,**

*Acting State Supervisor.*

[FR Doc. 99-16103 Filed 6-23-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### National Wildlife Refuge System Design Symbol

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice serves to designate the "Blue Goose" as the official design symbol for the National Wildlife Refuge System. We will use this design symbol on boundary markers for National Wildlife Refuges, and in conjunction with the Service shield, on signs at entrances and exits and on refuge-specific and Refuge System-specific publications. This action accomplishes the official designation of the symbol in current use. The Service Sign Committee and Publication Design Standards Committee are drafting specific guidelines for use of the Blue Goose on entrance and exit signs and on publications.

**DATES:** Effective June 24, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Doug Staller; telephone (703) 358-2029; FAX (703) 358-1826; e-mail Doug\_Staller@fws.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We prescribe the "Blue Goose" design symbol as the official symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior. We intend to use, but not limit the use, of this design symbol to indicate boundary markers for the National Wildlife Refuge System, and in conjunction with the Service shield, on signs at entrances and exits and on refuge-specific and Refuge System-specific publications. We use this symbol in a specified blue color.

In making this prescription, we give notice that whoever manufactures, sells or possesses this design symbol, or any colorable imitation thereof, or photographs, prints or in any other manner makes or executes any engraving, photograph or print, or