

cowbirds; conducting research to refine management practices and knowledge of ecology. The draft Plan will be revised and finalized based on comments received during meetings with the Implementation Subgroups, as well as comments received from the public.

Public Comments Solicited

The Service solicits written comments on the Draft Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Recovery Plan. 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: May 17, 2001.

Geoffrey L. Haskett,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 01-14183 Filed 6-5-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish And Wildlife Service

Environmental Statements; Availability, Etc: Incidental Take Permits—Houston Toad; Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan and Receipt of an Application for a Permit for the Incidental Take of the Houston toad (*Bufo houstonensis*) During Construction of One Single-family Residence on Approximately 0.5 Acres of the 15.704-acre Property on Gotier Trace Road, Bastrop County, Texas (Adams)

Summary: Leslie Adams (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 (Act). The Applicants have been assigned permit number TE-041787-0. The requested permit, which is for a period of 5 years, would authorize the incidental take of the endangered Houston toad (*Bufo houstonensis*). The proposed take would occur as a result of the construction and occupation of one single-family residence on approximately 0.5 acres of the 15.704-acre property on Gotier Trace Road, Bastrop County, Texas. The Service has prepared the Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan (EA/HCP) for the incidental take application. A determination of jeopardy to the species or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will not be made until at least 30 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).

Dates: Written comments on the application should be received on or before July 6, 2001.

Addresses: Persons wishing to review the application may obtain a copy by writing to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Room 4102, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87103. Persons wishing to review the EA/HCP may obtain a copy by contacting Clayton Napier, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas, 78758 (512/490-0057). Documents will be available for public inspection by written request, by appointment only, during normal business hours (8:00 to 4:30) at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Austin, Texas. Written data or comments concerning the application and EA/HCP should be submitted to the Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Austin, Texas, at the above address. Please refer to permit number TE-041787-0 when submitting comments.

For Further Information Contact: Clayton Napier at the above U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Austin Office.

Supplementary Information: Section 9 of the Act prohibits the "taking" of endangered species such as the Houston toad. 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.

Applicant: Leslie Adams plans to construct a single-family residence on approximately 0.5 acres of the 15.704-acre property on Gotier Trace Road, Bastrop County, Texas. This action will eliminate 0.5 acres or less of Houston toad habitat and result in indirect impacts within the property. The Applicant proposes to compensate for this incidental take of the Houston toad by providing \$2,000.00 to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the specific purpose of land acquisition and management within Houston toad habitat, as identified by the Service.

Geoffrey L. Haskett,

Acting Regional Director, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan and Receipt of an Application for a Permit for the Incidental Take of the Houston toad (*Bufo houstonensis*) During Construction of One Single-family Residence on Approximately 0.5 Acres of the 19.023-acre Property on Turkey Run Road, Bastrop County, Texas (Holcomb)

Summary: Will Holcomb (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 (Act). The Applicant has been assigned permit number TE-041785-0. The requested permit, which is for a period of 5 years, would authorize the incidental take of the endangered Houston toad (*Bufo houstonensis*). The proposed take would occur as a result of the construction and occupation of one single-family residence on approximately 0.5 acres of the 19.023-acre property on Turkey Run Road, Bastrop County, Texas.

The Service has prepared the Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan (EA/HCP) for the incidental take application. A determination of jeopardy to the species or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will not be made until at least 30 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).

Dates: Written comments on the application should be received by July 6, 2001.

Addresses: Persons wishing to review the application may obtain a copy by writing to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Room 4102, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87103. Persons wishing to review the EA/HCP may obtain a copy by contacting Clayton Napier, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas, 78758 (512/490-0057). Documents will be available for public inspection by written request, by appointment only, during normal business hours (8:00 to 4:30) at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Austin, Texas. Written data or comments concerning the application and EA/HCP should be submitted to the Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Austin, Texas, at the above address. Please refer to permit number

TE-041785-0 when submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clayton Napier at the above U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Austin Office.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 9 of the Act prohibits the "taking" of endangered species such as the Houston toad. 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.

Applicant: Will Holcomb plans to construct a single-family residence on approximately 0.5 acres of the 19.023-acre property on Turkey Run Road, Bastrop County, Texas. This action will eliminate 0.5 acres or less of Houston toad habitat and result in indirect impacts within the property. The Applicant proposes to compensate for this incidental take of the Houston toad by providing \$1,000.00 to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the specific purpose of land acquisition and management within Houston toad habitat, as identified by the Service.

Geoffrey L. Haskett,

Acting Regional Director, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

[FR Doc. 01-14185 Filed 6-5-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan and Receipt of an Application for a Permit for the Incidental Take of the Houston Toad (*Bufo houstonensis*)

During Construction of One Single-family Residence on Approximately 0.5 Acres of the 3.015-acre Property on Cowboy Loop, Bastrop County, Texas (Nicholson).

Summary: Don and Kate Nicholson (Applicants) have 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 (Act). The Applicants have been assigned permit number TE-041784-0. The requested permit, which is for a period of 5 years, would authorize the incidental take of the endangered Houston toad (*Bufo houstonensis*). The proposed take would occur as a result of the construction and occupation of one single-family residence on approximately 0.5 acres of the 3.015-

acre property on Cowboy Loop, Bastrop County, Texas.

The Service has prepared the Environmental Assessment/Habitat Conservation Plan (EA/HCP) for the incidental take application. A determination of jeopardy to the species or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will not be made until at least 30 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).

Dates: Written comments on the application should be received on or before July 6, 2001.

Addresses: Persons wishing to review the application may obtain a copy by writing to the Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 1306, Room 4102, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87103. Persons wishing to review the EA/HCP may obtain a copy by contacting Clayton Napier, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200, Austin, Texas, 78758 (512/490-0057). Documents will be available for public inspection by written request, by appointment only, during normal business hours (8:00 to 4:30) at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Austin, Texas. Written data or comments concerning the application and EA/HCP should be submitted to the Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Austin, Texas, at the above address. Please refer to permit number TE-041784-0 when submitting comments.

For Further Information Contact: Clayton Napier at the above U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Austin Office.

Supplementary Information: Section 9 of the Act prohibits the "taking" of endangered species such as the Houston toad. 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.

Applicant: Don and Kate Nicholson plan to construct a single-family residence on approximately 0.5 acres of the 3.015-acre property on Cowboy Loop, Bastrop County, Texas. This action will eliminate 0.5 acres or less of Houston toad habitat and result in indirect impacts within the property. The Applicants propose to compensate for this incidental take of the Houston toad by providing \$2,000.00 to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the specific purpose of land acquisition and management within

Houston toad habitat, as identified by the Service.

Geoffrey L. Haskett,

Acting Regional Director, Region 2, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

[FR Doc. 01-14186 Filed 6-5-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Issuance of Permit for Marine Mammals

On April 3, 2001, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 66, No. 64, Page 17728, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Stanley Arnt, Watervliet, MI, for a permit (PRT-040317) to import one polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) trophy taken from the Lancaster Sound population, Canada for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on May 17, 2001, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

On March 13, 2001, a notice was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 66, No. 49, Page 14593, that an application had been filed with the Fish and Wildlife Service by Robert Seidelman, Montgomery, IL, for a permit (PRT-038861) to import one polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) trophy taken from the Northern Beaufort Sea population, Canada for personal use.

Notice is hereby given that on May 17, 2001, as authorized by the provisions of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, *as amended* (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service authorized the requested permit subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

Documents and other information submitted for these applications are available for review by any party who submits a written request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 700, Arlington, Virginia 22203. Phone (703) 358-2104 or Fax (703) 358-2281.

Dated: May 25, 2001.

Monica Farris,

Senior Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.

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