

Request for Information

Our determination of candidate status for the Rio Grande cutthroat trout shall be based upon the best available scientific and commercial data, as required under section 4(b)(1)(A) of the Act. We request you submit any further information on the Rio Grande cutthroat trout. We are particularly interested in any information concerning the following:

- (1) Current population numbers and trends for each of the populations of the Rio Grande cutthroat trout;
- (2) Whether there are documented increases in those populations or their habitat;
- (3) The status of remaining habitat areas;
- (4) The current threats and future threats to those populations and remaining habitat areas; and
- (5) Other regulatory mechanisms that address those threats; and the success of those mechanisms to date.

References Cited

A complete list of all references cited is available upon request from the New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office (see **ADDRESSES** section).

Author

The primary author of this document is New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office staff (see **ADDRESSES** section).

Authority: The authority for this action is section 4(b)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1533.

Dated: November 23, 2001.

Nancy Kaufman,

Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 01-31911 Filed 12-27-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Industrial Gas Pipeline Right-of-Way Permit Application Crossing Fish and Wildlife Service National Wildlife Refuge

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) advises the public that Air Products, L.P., of Houston, Texas, has submitted an application to install a 10-inch nominal pipeline for transportation of industrial gas from Bayport, Texas, to Freeport, Texas, containing approximately 52.7 miles in length and crossing portions of Harris, Galveston, and Brazoria Counties,

Texas. The pipeline will be within an existing 300-foot wide pipeline right-of-way corridor that crosses the Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge, in Brazoria County, Texas. The portion that will cross the Service land is approximately 165.11 rods and will utilize a 12-foot by 55-foot surface site, in Brazoria County, Texas. The pipeline will consist of 10³/₄ inches O.D. steel line pipe, 0.365-inch wall thickness, API specification 5L Grade X-42, coated with fusion bonded epoxy, and cathodically protected, and will be buried at a minimum of 5 feet. An Environmental Analysis and Cultural Resources Review has been prepared and is on file.

This notice informs the public that the Service will be proceeding with the processing of the application, the compatibility determination and the approval processing which includes the preparation of the terms and conditions of the permit.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before January 28, 2002 to receive consideration by the Service.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to: Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Realty, Attention: Lena V. Marie, Realty Specialist, P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103-1306, telephone number 505-248-7411 or fax number 505-248-6803.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Refuge Manager for the Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge has approved the route of the pipeline that lies within an existing 300-foot wide right-of-way corridor.

Right-of-Way applications for pipelines are to be filed in accordance with Section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (30 U.S.C.), as amended by the Act of November 16, 1973, (37 Stat. 576, Public Law 93-153).

Dated: November 26, 2001.

Esther M. Pringle,

Acting Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 01-31858 Filed 12-27-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Applications for Incidental Take Permits by Gulf Highlands LLC and Fort Morgan Paradise Joint Venture in Alabama

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; Reopening of public comment period.

We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of an Environmental Assessment and receipt of applications for incidental take permits for residential development in Alabama. We also provide notice that the public comment period for the proposal is reopened to allow all interested parties to submit written comments on the proposed incidental take permits. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted. The original public notice, 66 FR 54020-54022, opened the comment period from October 25 through December 10, 2001.

Gulf Highlands LLC and Fort Morgan Paradise Joint Venture (Applicants) seek incidental take permits (ITP) from the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act). The proposed take would be incidental to otherwise lawful activities, including construction of residential condominiums, commercial facilities, and recreational amenities on adjoining tracts of land owned by the Applicants. The proposed action would involve approval of the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) jointly developed by the Applicants, as required by section 10(a)(2)(B) of the Act, to minimize and mitigate for incidental take of the Federally-listed, endangered Alabama beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus ammobates*)(ABM), the endangered Kemp's ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*), the threatened green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), and the threatened loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*). The subject permits would authorize take of ABM and the three sea turtles along 2,844 linear feet of coastal dune habitat fronting the Gulf of Mexico in Baldwin County, Alabama. The Applicants' properties total 180.5 acres, but only 62 acres would be developed. Additionally, about 16 acres of platted road rights-of-way are encompassed by the project and bring the total area to 196.4 acres. A more detailed description of the mitigation and minimization measures to address the effects of the Project to the ABM and sea turtles is provided in the Applicants' HCP, the Service's Environmental Assessment (EA), and in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below.

The Service announces the availability of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Habitat Conservation Plan/Applications for Incidental Take. The permit applications incorporate the Applicants' HCP as the proposed action for evaluation in the Service's EA. Copies of the EA on compact disk and the HCP