

the proposed rule to designate critical habitat for *Holocarpha macradenia* was published in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 57526). The original comment period closed on January 14, 2002. We are reopening the comment period for an additional 30 days to allow all interested parties to comment simultaneously on the proposed rule and the associated draft economic analysis.

We have proposed to designate approximately 1,360 hectares (3,360 acres) in Contra Costa, Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties, California, as critical habitat for *Holocarpha macradenia*. Critical habitat receives protection from destruction or adverse modification through required consultation under section 7 of the Act with regard to actions carried out, funded, or authorized by a Federal agency. Section 4(b)(2) of the Act requires that we designate or revise critical habitat based upon the best scientific and commercial data available, after taking into consideration the economic or any other relevant impact of specifying any particular area as critical habitat. Based upon the previously published proposal to designate critical habitat for *Holocarpha macradenia*, we have prepared a draft economic analysis of the proposed critical habitat designation. The draft economic analysis is available on the Internet and from the mailing addresses in the Public Comments Solicited section below.

#### Public Comments Solicited

We will accept written comments and information during this reopened comment period. If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments and materials concerning this proposal by any of several methods:

(1) You may submit written comments and information to the Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, CA 93003.

(2) You may send comments by electronic mail (e-mail) to: [fws1sctarplant@r1.fws.gov](mailto:fws1sctarplant@r1.fws.gov). If you submit comments by e-mail, please submit them as an ASCII file and avoid the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include "Attn: RIN 1018-AG73" and your name and return address in your e-mail message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your e-mail message, contact us directly by calling our Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office at telephone number 805/644-1766.

(3) You may hand-deliver comments to our Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office at the address given above.

Comments and materials received, as well as supporting documentation used in preparation of the proposal to designate critical habitat, will be available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address under (1) above. Copies of the draft economic analysis are available on the Internet at [www.r1.fws.gov/news](http://www.r1.fws.gov/news) or by writing to the Manager at the address under (1) above.

#### Author

The primary author of this notice is Catrina Martin (see **ADDRESSES** section).

**Authority:** The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: April 24, 2002.

#### Craig Manson,

*Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.*

[FR Doc. 02-11001 Filed 5-6-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### 50 CFR Part 17

#### RIN 1018-AG92

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designating Critical Habitat for *Thlaspi californicum* (Kneeland Prairie penny-cress)

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

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; reopening of comment period and notice of availability of draft economic analysis.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce the reopening of the comment period for the proposed designation of critical habitat for *Thlaspi californicum* (Kneeland Prairie penny-cress), and the availability of the draft economic analysis for this proposed designation of critical habitat. We are reopening the comment period to allow all interested parties to comment simultaneously on the proposed rule and the associated draft economic analysis. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted as they will be incorporated into the public record and will be fully considered in the final rule.

**DATES:** We will accept public comments until June 6, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and information should be submitted to

Field Supervisor, Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1655 Heindon Road, Arcata, CA 95521.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Field Supervisor, Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office, at telephone: 707/822-7201; facsimile: 707/822-8411.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

*Thlaspi californicum* is a perennial member of the mustard family (Brassicaceae). The species grows from 9.5 to 12.5 centimeters (3.7 to 4.9 inches) tall with a basal cluster of green to purplish, sparsely toothed leaves. Leaves borne along the stem are sessile (without a stalk) with entire to toothed margins. The white flowers have strongly ascending flower stalks. *Thlaspi californicum* flowers from April to June. The fruit is a sharply pointed silicle (a short fruit typically no more than two to three times longer than wide), and is elliptic to obovate, without wings, and with an ascending stalk.

*Thlaspi californicum* is endemic to serpentine soils in Kneeland Prairie, located in the outer north coast range of Humboldt County, California. Serpentine soils are derived from ultramafic rocks (rocks with unusually large amounts of magnesium and iron). The entire known distribution of *T. californicum* occurs on Ashfield Ridge at elevations ranging from 792 to 841 meters (m) [2,600 to 2,760 feet (ft)].

The only known occurrence of *Thlaspi californicum* includes five relatively distinct groups of plants all located within 300 m (980 ft) of each other. The species occupies an area divided by the Kneeland Airport and Mountain View Road. The known population consists of approximately 5,300 individuals. The five colonies occupy an estimated 0.3 ha (0.8 ac).

Historically, several land use activities may have altered the distribution and abundance of *Thlaspi californicum* colonies. These activities included construction of the county road in the 1800s (currently Mountain View Road), the Kneeland Airport in 1964, and the California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CDFFP) helitack base in 1980. Currently, potential threats to *T. californicum* include small population size; expansion of Kneeland Airport and CDFFP helitack base; road realignment; catastrophic events; and spread of exotic species.

On June 17, 1999, our failure to issue a final rule and to make a critical habitat determination for *Thlaspi californicum* was challenged in *Southwest Center for*

*Biological Diversity and California Native Plant Society v. Babbitt* (Case No. C99-2992 (N.D.Cal.)). Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act) (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), *T. californicum* was listed as an endangered species on February 9, 2000 (65 FR 6332). On October 24, 2001, the proposed rule to designate critical habitat for *Thlaspi californicum* was published in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 53756). The original comment period closed on December 24, 2001. We are reopening the comment period for an additional 30 days to allow all interested parties to comment simultaneously on the proposed rule and the associated draft economic analysis.

We proposed to designate critical habitat in one critical habitat unit that includes approximately 30 ha (74 ac), surrounding Kneeland Airport and bisected by Mountain View Road. This unit includes all five known plant colonies and all other serpentine outcrops in close proximity to the colonies. All of the proposed critical habitat for *Thlaspi californicum* is located on Ashfield Ridge in Kneeland Prairie, Humboldt County, California. Critical habitat receives protection from destruction or adverse modification through required consultation under section 7 of the Act with regard to actions carried out, funded, or authorized by a Federal agency. Section 4(b)(2) of the Act requires that we designate or revise critical habitat based upon the best scientific and commercial data available, after taking into consideration the economic impact of specifying any particular area as critical habitat. Based upon the previously published proposal to designate critical habitat for *T. californicum*, we have prepared a draft economic analysis of the proposed critical habitat designation. The draft economic analysis is available on the Internet and from the mailing addresses in the Public Comments Solicited section below.

#### Public Comments Solicited

We will accept written comments and information during this comment period. If you wish to comment, you may submit written comments and materials concerning this proposal by any of several methods:

(1) You may submit written comments and information to the Field Supervisor, Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office, 1655 Heindon Road, Arcata, CA 95521.

(2) You may send comments by electronic mail (e-mail) to: [FW1\\_kneelandpennycress@fws.gov](mailto:FW1_kneelandpennycress@fws.gov). If you submit comments by e-mail, please submit them as an ASCII file and avoid

the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Please also include "Attn: RIN 1018-AG92" and your name and return address in your e-mail message. If you do not receive a confirmation from the system that we have received your e-mail message, contact us directly by calling our Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office at telephone number 707/822-7201.

(3) You may hand-deliver comments to our Arcata Fish and Wildlife Office at the above address.

Comments and materials received, as well as supporting documentation used in preparation of the proposal to designate critical habitat, will be available for inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the address under (1) above. Copies of the draft economic analysis are available on the Internet at "[www.r1.fws.gov/news](http://www.r1.fws.gov/news)" or by writing to the Field Supervisor at the address under (1) above.

#### References Cited

A complete list of all references cited herein, as well as others, is available upon request from the Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office (see **ADDRESSES** section).

#### Author

The primary author of this notice is Robin Hamlin, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above Arcata address.

**Authority:** The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: April 24, 2002.

#### Craig Manson,

*Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.*

[FR Doc. 02-11002 Filed 5-6-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### 50 CFR Part 17

#### RIN 1018-AG75

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for *Chlorogalum purpureum*, a Plant From the South Coast Ranges of California

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

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; reopening of comment period and notice of availability of draft economic analysis.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce the reopening of the comment period for the

proposed designation of critical habitat for two varieties of purple amole: *Chlorogalum purpureum* var. *purpureum* (purple amole) and *Chlorogalum purpureum* var. *reductum* (Camatta Canyon amole), and the availability of the draft economic analysis for the proposed designation of critical habitat. We are reopening the comment period for these species to allow all interested parties to comment simultaneously on the proposed rule and the associated draft economic analysis. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted as they will be incorporated into the public record as part of this extended comment period and will be fully considered in the final rule.

**DATES:** We will accept public comments until June 6, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and information should be submitted to Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, CA 93003. For the electronic mail address, and further instructions on commenting, refer to Public Comments Solicited section of this notice.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Heidi E. D. Crowell, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, telephone 805/644-1766; facsimile 805/644-3958.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

*Chlorogalum purpureum* is a low-growing lily that forms a rosette composed of linear and flat, bright green leaves at the base of the plant (basal rosette). It is the only member of the genus *Chlorogalum* with bluish-purple flowers that open during daytime hours. *Chlorogalum purpureum* var. *purpureum* has an inflorescence (flowering structure) that is 25 to 40 cm (10 to 16 in) high, in contrast to *C. p.* var. *reductum* which has a shorter inflorescence that is 10 to 20 cm (4 to 8 in) high (Wilken 2000, Hoover 1964, Jernstedt 1993).

*Chlorogalum purpureum* is endemic to the south coast ranges of Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties. *Chlorogalum purpureum* var. *purpureum* (purple amole) occurs in the Santa Lucia Range of southern Monterey County and in northern San Luis Obispo County. *Chlorogalum purpureum* var. *reductum* (Camatta Canyon amole) occurs in one region of the La Panza Range of San Luis Obispo County. Threats include habitat fragmentation, habitat conversion, establishment of invasive plant species and nonnative