

Rule Making is issued until the matter is no longer subject to Commission consideration or court review, all *ex parte* contacts are prohibited in Commission proceedings, such as this one, which involve channel allotments. See 47 CFR 1.1204(b) for rules governing permissible *ex parte* contacts.

For information regarding proper filing procedures for comments, see 47 CFR 1.415 and 1.420.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Television broadcasting.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Federal Communications Commission proposes to amend 47 CFR Part 73 as follows:

PART 73—RADIO BROADCAST SERVICES

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334 and 336.

§ 73.606 [Amended]

2. Section 73.606(b), the Table of Television Allotments under Texas, is amended by removing Channel 52+ and adding Channel 17 at Blanco.

Federal Communications Commission.

Barbara A. Kreisman,

Chief, Video Division, Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 02-24355 Filed 9-24-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

RIN 1018-AI50

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reopening of the Comment Period for the Proposed Rule to List the Plant *Lepidium papilliferum* (slickspot peppergrass) as Endangered

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; notice of reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the reopening of the public comment period for the proposed rule to list the *Lepidium papilliferum* (slickspot peppergrass) as endangered. The comment period is reopened to allow additional time for all interested parties to submit written comments on the proposal. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted as

they already have been incorporated into the public record and will be fully considered in the final rule.

DATES: The original public comment period on the proposal closed on September 13, 2002. The public comment period is reopened, and we will accept comments until November 25, 2002. Comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on the closing date. Any comments that are received after the closing date may not be considered in the final decision on this action.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft proposal are available on the Internet at: <http://endangered.fws.gov/frpubs/02fedreg.htm> or by writing to the Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Snake River Basin Office, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Room 368, Boise, ID 83709.

If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments and materials concerning this proposal by any one of several methods:

You may submit written comments and information to the Supervisor at the address above.

You may also send comments by electronic mail (e-mail) to:

fw1srbcocomment@fws.gov. See the Public Comments Solicited section below for file format and other information about electronic filing.

Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert Ruesink, Supervisor, Snake River Basin Office (see **ADDRESSES**) (telephone 208/378-5243; facsimile 208/378-5262). Information regarding this proposal is available in alternative formats upon request.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Lepidium papilliferum is a herbaceous annual or biennial plant that occurs in sagebrush-steppe habitats. This species is found along the Snake River Plain and Owyhee Plateau in Ada, Canyon, Gem, Elmore, Payette, and Owyhee counties. *Lepidium papilliferum* is threatened by a variety of activities including urbanization, gravel mining, irrigated agriculture, habitat degradation due to cattle and sheep grazing, fire and fire rehabilitation activities, and continued invasion of habitat by non-native plant species. Of 88 known occurrences of *Lepidium papilliferum*, 70 are currently extant (exist), 13 are considered extirpated (extinct), and five are historic and have not been relocated.

Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (Act), we published a proposed rule to list *Lepidium papilliferum* as endangered on July 15, 2002 (67 FR 46441). For further information regarding background biological information, previous Federal actions, factors affecting the species, and conservation measures available to *Lepidium papilliferum*, please refer to our proposed rule published in the **Federal Register** on July 15, 2002.

Public Comments Solicited

With this notification, we solicit additional information and comments that may assist us in making a final decision on the proposed rule to list *Lepidium papilliferum* as endangered. We intend that any final listing action resulting from our proposal will be as accurate and effective as possible. Therefore, we request comments and additional information from the general public, other concerned governmental agencies, the scientific community, industry, or any other interested party concerning this proposed rule. Comments are particularly sought concerning:

(1) Biological, commercial trade, or other relevant data concerning any threat (or lack thereof) to this species;

(2) Additional information regarding the range, locations, and population size of this species;

(3) Land use practices and current or planned activities in the subject areas and their possible impacts on this species; and

(4) The reasons why any habitat should or should not be determined to be critical habitat pursuant to section 4 of the Act, including whether the benefit of designation will outweigh any benefits of exclusion.

Previously submitted written comments on this proposal need not be resubmitted. If you submit comments by e-mail, please submit them in ASCII file format and avoid the use of special characters and encryption. Please include "Attn: RIN 1018-AI50" and your name and return address in your e-mail message. If you do not receive a confirmation from our system that we have received your e-mail message, contact us directly by calling our Snake River Basin Fish and Wildlife Office at telephone number 208/378-5243. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the Snake River Basin Fish and Wildlife Office, at the above address.

In making any final decision on the proposed action, we will take into consideration the comments and any

additional information we receive, and such communications may lead to a final regulation that differs from the proposal.

Author

The primary author of this notice is Barbara Behan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service, Regional Office, Portland, Oregon.

Authority

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

Dated: September 18, 2002.

Craig Manson,

Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

[FR Doc. 02-24363 Filed 9-24-02; 8:45 am]

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