

indicated above. Detailed justifications and empirical data supporting any suggestions would be appreciated. We also request that any comments, recommendations or suggestions be submitted in a format that addresses the topics outlined above in a concise manner, rather than in the form of comprehensive draft guidance that mirrors previous CPGs.

Dated: August 13, 2003.

Dara Corrigan,

Acting Principal Deputy Inspector General.

[FR Doc. 03-22626 Filed 9-4-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4152-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Transportation Security Administration

Aviation Security Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Transportation Security Administration (TSA), DHS.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Aviation Security Advisory Committee (ASAC).

DATE: The meeting will take place on October 1, 2003, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Washington National Hotel, 1489 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202. Telephone: (703) 416-1600.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph Corrao, Office of Transportation Security Policy, TSA Headquarters (Room 1146N), 701 S. 12th Street, Arlington, VA, 22202; telephone 571-227-2980, e-mail joseph.corrao@dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting is announced pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.). The agenda for the meeting will include the report of the air cargo transportation security working groups, and the report of the general aviation airport security guidelines working group. This meeting, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., is open to the public but attendance is limited to space available.

Members of the public must make advance arrangements to present oral statements at the open ASAC meeting. Written statements may be presented to the committee by providing copies of them to the Chair prior to or at the meeting. Anyone in need of assistance or a reasonable accommodation for the meeting, should contact the person listed under the heading **FOR FURTHER**

INFORMATION CONTACT. In addition, sign and oral interpretation, as well as a listening device, can be made available at the meeting if requested 10 calendar days before the meeting. Arrangements may be made by contacting the person listed under the heading **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.**

Issued in Arlington, Virginia, on September 2, 2003.

Tom Blank,

Assistant Administrator for Transportation Security Policy.

[FR Doc. 03-22666 Filed 9-4-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-62-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4809-N-36]

Federal Property Suitable as Facilities To Assist the Homeless

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice identifies unutilized, underutilized, excess, and surplus Federal property reviewed by HUD for suitability for possible use to assist the homeless.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 5, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Johnston, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Room 7262, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 708-1234; TTY number for the hearing- and speech-impaired (202) 708-2565, (these telephone numbers are not toll-free), or call the toll-free Title V information line at 1-800-927-7588.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the December 12, 1988 court order in *National Coalition for the Homeless v. Veterans Administration*, No. 88-2503-OG (D.D.C.), HUD publishes a Notice, on a weekly basis, identifying unutilized, underutilized, excess and surplus Federal buildings and real property that HUD has reviewed for suitability for use to assist the homeless. Today's Notice is for the purpose of announcing that no additional properties have been determined suitable or unsuitable this week.

Dated: August 28, 2003.

Mark R. Johnston,

Deputy Director, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs.

[FR Doc. 03-22460 Filed 9-4-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210-29-M

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; 90-Day Finding on Petition To Delist *Astragalus magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* (Peirson's milk-vetch)

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of 90-day petition finding.

SUMMARY: We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, make a 90-day finding for a petition to remove *Astragalus magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* (Peirson's milk-vetch) from the Federal List of Threatened and Endangered Wildlife and Plants pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). We find that the petition presents substantial information indicating that delisting this plant may be warranted. We are initiating a status review to determine if delisting this species is warranted.

DATES: This finding was made on August 29, 2003. To be considered in the 12-month finding on this petition, comments and information should be submitted to us by November 4, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments, material, information, or questions concerning this petition and finding should be sent to the Field Supervisor, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 6010 Hidden Valley Road, Carlsbad, CA 92009. The petition and supporting information are available for public inspection by appointment during normal business hours at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Bartel, Field Supervisor, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, at the above address (telephone: 760-431-9440).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 4(b)(3)(A) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires that we make a finding on whether a petition to list, delist, or reclassify a species presents substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that the petitioned action may be warranted. To the maximum extent practicable, this finding is to be made within 90 days of receipt of the petition, and the finding is to be published promptly in the **Federal Register**. If we find substantial information present, we are required to promptly commence a review of the status of the species (50 CFR 424.14). "Substantial information" is defined in 50 CFR 424.14(b) as "that amount of

information that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the measure proposed in the petition may be warranted." Petitioners need not prove that the petitioned action is warranted to support a "substantial" finding; instead, the key consideration in evaluating a petition for substantiality involves demonstration of the reliability and adequacy of the information supporting the action advocated by the petition.

On October 25, 2001, we received a petition to delist *Astragalus magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* (Peirson's milk-vetch) dated October 24, 2001, from David P. Hubbard, Ted J. Griswold, and Philip J. Giacinti, Jr. of Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch, LLP, that was prepared for the American Sand Association (ASA), the San Diego Off-Road Coalition, and the Off-Road Business Association (ASA *et al.* 2001). Various supporting documents were submitted with the petition. The petition (ASA *et al.* 2001) asserts that the original decision to list *A. magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* was in error, and claims that: (1) The original listing decision was made without an actual plant count; (2) the original listing relied on data developed prior to the implementation of the California Desert Protection Act (CDPA); (3) the original listing decision relied on field studies that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has since determined were biased and scientifically unsound; (4) monitoring studies indicate that *A. magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* is abundant and thriving; and (5) plant counts confirm that the Imperial Sand Dunes support more than 100,000 *A. magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* individuals and a healthy seed bank.

On November 6, 2002 we received a 60-day notice of intent to sue from David P. Hubbard *et al.*, representing the ASA *et al.*, citing our alleged failure to make the findings on this petition as required by the ESA. A complaint was executed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California on February 25, 2003. The plaintiffs (ASA *et al.*) challenge the Service's failure to make both the 90-day finding and 12-month finding on petition to delist the Peirson's milk-vetch. In August 2003, the Department of Justice entered into a settlement agreement with ASA *et al.*, requiring us to make a 90-day finding on this petition by August 29, 2003, and, if the 90-day finding is that the petition contains substantial information that delisting *Astragalus magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* may be warranted, a 12-month finding by May 31, 2004. As part of this settlement agreement, the petitioners

asked that we also accept and consider the information provided in Phillips and Kennedy (2002) when making our findings.

The factors for listing, delisting, or reclassifying species are described at 50 CFR 424.11. We may delist a species only if the best scientific and commercial data available substantiate that it is neither endangered nor threatened. Delisting may be warranted as a result of: (1) Extinction, (2) recovery, or (3) a determination that the original data used for classification of the species as endangered or threatened were in error.

Biology and Distribution

Astragalus magdalenae var. *peirsonii* occurs essentially as one population of scattered colonies within the Algodones Dunes in the Sonoran Desert of Imperial County, California. The Algodones Dunes are often called the Imperial Sand Dunes, a designation derived from a land use area called the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area established by BLM. The habitat for *A. magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* is slopes and hollows of wind-blown desert dunes, chiefly along a northwest-to-southeast orientation on the BLM-managed land. The distribution and relative abundance of the plant varies from place to place and year to year (WESTEC Services, Inc. (WESTEC) 1977; Willoughby 2000, 2001; Thomas Olsen Associates, Inc. (TOA) 2001; Phillips and Kennedy 2002). The tendency of plants to be found in patches is likely due to the localized dispersal of the fruits and seeds, as well as dune morphology and differences in local rainfall patterns.

Astragalus magdalenae var. *peirsonii* (Peirson's milk-vetch) is an erect to spreading, short-lived perennial in the Fabaceae (Pea family) (Barneby 1959, 1964). Plants may reach 20 to 70 centimeters (cm) (8 to 27 inches (in)) in height and develop taproots (Barneby 1964) that penetrate to the deeper, more moist sand. The stems and leaves are covered with fine, silky appressed (flat on surface) hairs. The small, narrow, widely spaced leaflets may fall off in response to drought. The purple flowers are arranged in 10-to 17-flowered axillary racemes. Individuals are reportedly able to flower in their first growing season (Barneby 1964; Romsper and Burk 1979). Romsper and Burk (1979) found inflorescences present from December through at least April. The fruits are 2 to 3.5 cm (0.8 to 1.4 in) long and inflated. Phillips and Kennedy (2002) determined that the mean number of fruits per older plant was 171.5 compared with an estimated 5 fruits per plant for plants said to be

in their first year. The seeds, among the largest known for any species of *Astragalus* (Bowers 1996), average 15 milligrams (mg) (less than 0.1 ounces (oz)) each in weight and are up to 4.7 millimeters (mm) (0.2 in) in length. There are 11 to 16 seeds per fruit (Barneby 1964). *Astragalus lentiginosus* var. *borreganus*, easily distinguished by its conspicuously broad leaflets, is the only similar taxon in the area.

Seeds are dispersed by three basic mechanisms: (1) Falling from partially open fruits that remain on the plant; (2) falling from fruits that are blown across the sand; or (3) falling to the ground within the fruit (Barneby 1964; Bowers 1986; Phillips and Kennedy 2002). Wind dispersal of fruits across the surface of the dunes is likely the primary long-distance dispersal method for this plant. The fruits and seeds tend to accumulate on the leeward side of the dunes. These seeds may be found scattered on the sand surface at times.

The number and location of standing plants may vary considerably from year to year due to a number of factors, including the amount, timing, and location of rainfall; temperature; soil conditions; and the extent and nature of the seed bank. For example, along the BLM transects, Willoughby (2001) reported that 942 plants were found in 1999 and only 86 plants in 2000, both low rainfall years compared to the wetter year 1998, when 5,064 plants were found. In 2001, 71,926 plants were reported (TOA 2001), but this single census does not provide any information on population trend. Plant mortality over the short term may also be considerable (Phillips and Kennedy 2002).

In 1979, *Astragalus magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* was listed by the State of California as an endangered species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). On October 6, 1998, we listed *A. magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* as threatened (63 FR 53596). We made this determination based upon the best scientific and commercial information available at the time. As stated and documented in the final listing rule, this action was taken, in part, because of threats of increasing habitat loss from off-highway vehicle (OHV) use, associated recreational development, destruction of plants, and lack of protections afforded the plant on Federal lands. We did not designate critical habitat for *A. magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* at the time of listing because such action was not considered prudent at that time.

Finding

We have reviewed the petition and literature cited in and provided with the petition and considered it with other information in our files. We have found that the petition presents substantial information indicating that delisting *Astragalus magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* may be warranted. The petitioners have suggested that *A. magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* is a species that exists, in many years, largely as a seed bank, with relatively few standing individuals above ground. At the time we listed *A. magdalenae* var. *peirsonii* as a threatened species (63 FR 53596), we did not have—and so could not consider—information about the extent of the seed bank of this species. Petitioners have provided information suggesting the species may have a healthy seed bank (Phillips and Kennedy 2002), even though standing plants are frequently rare. Surveys conducted since we listed this species in 1998 indicate that, in some years, probably in response to increased precipitation, the number of standing plants considerably increases (TOA 2001; Willoughby 2000, 2001). While significant questions remain about the extent and viability of the seed bank, and the contribution of the increased numbers of standing plants in 1998 (Willoughby 2000) and 2001 (TOA 2001) to the seed bank and the persistence of this species into the future, we consider these to be issues relevant to the listing determination and warranting further investigation. Accordingly, we believe it is appropriate to consider this information, and any other new information available about this species and the threats it may face, in a status review.

Public Information Solicited

When we make a finding that substantial information exists to indicate that listing or delisting a species may be warranted, we are required to promptly commence a review of the status of the species. To ensure that the status review is complete and based on the best available scientific and commercial information, we are soliciting information on *Astragalus magdalenae* var. *peirsonii*. This includes information regarding historical and current distribution, biology and ecology, ongoing conservation measures for the species and its habitat, and threats to the species and its habitat. We also request information regarding the adequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms. We request any additional

information, comments, and suggestions from the public, other concerned governmental agencies, Tribes, the scientific community, industry or environmental entities, or any other interested parties concerning the status of *A. magdalenae* var. *peirsonii*.

If you wish to comment, you may submit your comments and materials concerning this finding to the Field Supervisor, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office (see ADDRESSES section). Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Respondents may request that we withhold a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name or address, you must state this request prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider anonymous comments. To the extent consistent with applicable law, we will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

References Cited

A complete list of all references cited in this finding is available, upon request, from the Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office (see ADDRESSES section).

Authority

The authority for this action is section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: August 29, 2003.

Steve Williams,

Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 03-22600 Filed 9-4-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

Notice of Meeting of the Klamath Fishery Management Council

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. I), this notice announces a meeting of the Klamath Fishery Management Council, established under

the authority of the Klamath River Basin Fishery Resources Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 460ss *et seq.*). The Klamath Fishery Management Council makes recommendations to agencies that regulate harvest of anadromous fish in the Klamath River Basin. The objectives of this meeting are to hear technical reports, review the 2003 fisheries, and discuss fall Chinook salmon management and allocation issues related to the 2004 season. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The Klamath Fishery Management Council will meet from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, October 15, 2003, and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, October 16, 2003.

Place: The meeting will be held at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office, 1829 South Oregon Street, Yreka, California.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Phil Detrich, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 1829 South Oregon Street; Yreka, California 96097; telephone (530) 842-5763.

For background information on the Klamath Council, please refer to the notice of their initial meeting that appeared in the **Federal Register** on July 8, 1987 (52 FR 25639).

Dated: August 28, 2003.

John Engbring,

Acting Manager, California/Nevada Office.

[FR Doc. 03-22611 Filed 9-4-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comments Requested

ACTION: 30-day notice of information collection under review: report of multiple sale or other disposition of pistols and revolvers.

The Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. This proposed information collection was previously published in the **Federal Register** Volume 68, Number 106, on page 33182 on June 3, 2003, allowing for a 60-day comment period.